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THE TIMES

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Carrington to visit Jerusalem

Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, is to visit Jerusalem in the next few weeks. It is expected to be one of the most controversial official visits to Israel in recent years and will take place when Israeli-British relations are at one of their lowest points. Much of the Israeli hostility is aimed at Lord Carrington personally.

John Grigg to join the SDP

The writer John Grigg, a former Tory parliamentary candidate, is resigning as president of his local Conservative Association in Greenwich to join the Social Democrats. He said that as "an unhappy Tory" he felt that control of the party, to which he had belonged all his adult life, was passing into the hands of people he could not agree with.

Dinner staff win on closed shop

An industrial tribunal ordered Walsall Council to reinstate four school dinner ladies who were dismissed because they refused to join a union. The council admitted the women were unfairly dismissed but said there would be trouble with unions if they got their jobs back.

Ministers in Budget talks

Ministers will get their chance to argue for a tax-cutting Budget at a specially-extended Cabinet meeting next Thursday. The Cabinet discussion was agreed after ministers objected to being surprised by Sir Geoffrey Howe's measures last year. This year's Budget is on March 9.

Split in 'save the whale' lobby

A split has developed in the campaign to save whales. All but one of the leading conservation groups have urged the British Government not to raise the issue of the bowhead whale, hunted only in Alaska, Eskimos, to enable the United States to take a strong stand on commercial whaling.

Bosses' bid for Jetsave rejected

A management buy-back offer of less than £3m to Associated Communications Corporation for Jetsave, the transatlantic package holidays operation, was rejected yesterday. An increased offer is expected from Mr Reg Fyfe, Jetsave chairman.

Youths break in jewellers' shop

Extra police were drafted into south London last night after a gang of about 20 youths smashed the front of a jeweller's shop in Deptford and helped themselves to valuables. One arrest was made. A larger gang carried out a similar raid in Lewisham on Tuesday.

Howe gets tough with Japanese

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, has told Japan it must reflect its economy and let the yen rise in world money markets. He has also called on the Reagan Administration to get its budget deficit under control.

No rapist will go free, Whitelaw pledges

By Anthony Bevins, Political Correspondent

The Home Secretary is to accept an amendment to his Criminal Justice Bill, which would introduce mandatory custodial sentences for rapists. The Bill received its second reading in the Commons last night and will now be subject to amendment as part of its committee stage. Mr William Whitelaw said in his opening speech yesterday: "The Lord Chief Justice has made it clear that in all but wholly exceptional circumstances, those who commit rape must expect immediate custodial sentences. It is right that society should mark its horror of violent crime in this way."

It is understood that Mr Whitelaw is willing to put his words into action, by accepting a backbench amendment to the Criminal Justice Bill, which is expected to become law later this year.

Mr Robert Kilroy-Silk, Labour MP for Ormskirk and chairman of the all-party Penal Affairs Group in Parliament, said last night that he would be tabling such an amendment. This is expected to take the form of a new clause which would, in terms, state that "a person convicted of rape shall be sentenced to imprisonment unless it appears to the court that there are special circumstances, whether relating to the offence or the offender, whereby another method of dealing with him is more appropriate."

The exclusion clause would be designed to deal with mentally abnormal offenders, who would be detained in a special hospital.

The main emphasis of the Bill is on the need for fewer and shorter custodial sentences, but Mr Whitelaw assured MPs that it also carried out the Government's commitment to tougher sentences in appropriate cases, including violent offences causing so much worry at the present time.

The changes to sentence structure proposed in the Bill were designed to ensure that all violent and other dangerous offenders would receive custodial and, if necessary, long sentences.

Mr Nicholas Fairbairn, Scotland's Solicitor-General, will make a statement in the Lords on the decision not to prosecute three youths accused of raping a Glasgow woman before repeatedly slashing her with a razor.

A report in yesterday's Glasgow Evening Times newspaper, which the Government would endorse the decision.

He is quoted as saying: "The overriding factor which finally decided the matter was the simple, inescapable fact that the prosecution did not have sufficient competent or available evidence to stand any chance of gaining a conviction."

The Minister was reported to have said that the decision not to prosecute was correct, and that the victim's state of mind and her ability to give evidence in court had been irrelevant.

Earlier reports said the case was abandoned because psychiatrists had advised that the victim would suffer permanent mental damage if she gave evidence.

The woman said on Tuesday that she was prepared to appear in court.

Mr Fairbairn's reported remarks brought an immediate angry reaction from MPs who had been expecting a Commons statement yesterday.

Mr Donald Dewar, Opposition spokesman on Scottish affairs, said it was outrageous that the minister should make a statement to a newspaper while denying a statement to the Commons.

Mr Gordon Wilson, Scottish Nationalist MP for Dumfries East, said: "The Solicitor-General has abused his office by rushing ahead with premature comment before his statement to MPs."

Mr Jack Ashley, Labour MP for Stoke-on-Trent, last night wrote to the Prime Minister to ask for a comprehensive inquiry into the law.

He says: "Public anxiety is mounting as one rape scandal succeeds another. Although ministers have responded with commendable speed to recent events, an ad hoc approach of this kind is hopelessly inadequate."

"What is now needed is a comprehensive inquiry. I am writing therefore to ask you to order an investigation by the Lord Chancellor and the Home Secretary into the law relating to rape, the operation of the police and the attitude of the police to the victims of this crime."



Two views of London Bridge at 8.50 am illustrate the effect of the rail strike on commuters. The first (left) was taken on Tuesday when trains were still running, and the second (right) during yesterday's stoppage.

Train guards threaten new strike

Some commuters were up before dawn to tackle the difficult travelling conditions, most of them chose to leave home no earlier than usual. The absence of a traffic jam on London Bridge shows how few people were reporting for work at their normal hour.

Heart of the dispute, page 2

Jaruzelski to announce easing of martial law in Poland

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw, Jan 20

The Church has been talking with the Government for the past two days in the forum of the joint Government-episcopate commission. Broadly speaking, both sides agreed on the need to establish some institutionalized form of dialogue between Church and state as a way of phasing out martial law. The Church complained at the meeting about police harassment of former Solidarity activists; but the bishops failed to reach any agreement on the future shape of trade unions.

There was, however, agreement on the problems caused by economic sanctions. According to a final joint statement: "Participants in the meeting agreed that economic aid is indispensable for the nation in the extremely hard conditions that the country is facing and said economic sanctions seriously hamper the process of overcoming the crisis and the return to full implementation of the process of renewal."

President Reagan today issued a proclamation declaring January 30 as Solidarity Day (Nicholas Ashford writes from Washington). He called on the people of the United States and other free nations to observe the day in meetings, demonstrations, rallies and other expressions of support for the Polish people.

The American Government's principal contribution to Solidarity Day will be the production of a television spectacular entitled Let Poland be Poland.

Mr Charles Z. Wick, head of the United States International Communication Agency (USICA) which is organizing the show, told a press conference today that it will be "the biggest show in the history of the world."

USICA is putting up half a million dollars to cover the show which, Congress approves, will be broadcast to 300 million people around the world. It will consist of a mixture of reportage about Poland, statements by world leaders including Mrs Thatcher and Helmut Schmidt, and contributions by American and European performers. Frank Sinatra will sing a song in Polish entitled Ever Homebound.

However, some American diplomats are concerned that the show could produce an adverse reaction overseas, particularly if the theatricality of the approach is seen to be trivializing the suffering of the Polish people.

Bank moves to stop home loan misuse

By Peter Wilson-Smith and Lorna Bourke

The Bank of England has taken action to prevent mortgage loans being used by consumers as a cheap form of finance for other purposes. In a statement to all banks and licensed deposit takers the Bank says it wants to ensure that home loans are used only for buying or improving property and not as a means of consumer realising capital profits on their houses.

Since entering the mortgage market in a big way 18 months ago, bank lending for house buying has risen dramatically. Home loans from Barclays, for instance, have risen from virtually nothing to £750m in the last 14 months. The banks are now lending one in three of all new home loans.

There have been suspicions that some consumers have been remortgaging their houses with larger than necessary loans and using part of the proceeds to fuel their own spending on cars or other consumer goods. The same practice is thought to have been happening with home improvement loans.

There are obvious attractions in doing this because with bank base rates at 14 1/2 per cent overdrafts cost from 17 1/2 to 19 1/2 per cent but the rate for home loans is only 15 per cent. Tax relief cuts the cost even further to home buyers who move house. Those who do not move house but take out a larger loan do not get tax relief on the excess.

The Bank wants to stamp out this practice because, if left to flourish, it could cause a consumer boom and destroy attempts to control inflation.

The clearing bank yesterday welcomed the evidence from the Bank but said it would not affect growth in their home lending.

Building societies deny that similar spending on consumer goods is occurring through their lending.

Britain wins cuisine star war

By Robin Young, Consumer Affairs Correspondent

The proudest award in catering finally arrived in Britain yesterday when the Michelin organization announced that it had awarded three stars to Le Gavroche restaurant in Mayfair, London.

It is the first time that a British restaurant has been deemed worthy of three stars and therefore of a special journey to enjoy a meal, since Michelin published its first guide to Britain in 1911.

Michelin's anonymous chief inspector said: "The three-star award gives the lie to the national sport of denigrating British cooking. We award three stars very seldom, demanding exceptional standards of dedication, flair, imagination, artistry, service and comfort."

The Michelin men enjoyed 14 unannounced meals at Le Gavroche before deciding they could award the precious third star. Inspectors from France were called to examine the restaurant incognito before the decision was confirmed.

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Labour alarm over Trotskyist alliance

By Anthony Revins, Political Correspondent

Leading Labour right-wingers are becoming increasingly concerned about the activities and influence of the Socialist Organiser Alliance, a little-known Trotskyist coalition on the hard-left of the party.

Some MPs are so incensed by a Socialist Organiser campaign on the future of the party, that the alliance could yet provide the provocation, or the pretext, for a breakdown in the Bishop's Stortford peace agreement.

The alliance, which consists of supporters of far-left groups such as the International Communist League, Workers' Action, the Workers' Socialist League, Women's Fightback, and the founding Socialist Campaign for a Labour Victory, has come out against the top-level party truce.

Some Labour leaders feel strongly that Socialist Organiser, like Militant, is acting in breach of the party constitution because it maintains a separate membership, structure, policy programme and newspaper.

But they have been forced to accept that Mr Michael Foot and the party's national executive will probably draw the line at the present investigation into Militant.

The alliance, whose newspaper, carries a weekly report of its own far-left policy programme, maintains local groups in most big towns, and has appealed to its readers to "become a card-carrying supporter".

The importance of the alliance is that it brings together a large number of separate sects and, unlike Militant Tendency, it goes out of its way to fight for minority rights.

Militant is judged to have a poor record on women's rights, the rights of ethnic minorities and the gay community. Socialist Organiser has filled that gap on the far-left.

The alliance has instigated the formation of the National Left Wing Youth Movement, with its own newspaper, to challenge Militant's pre-eminence in the Labour Party Young Socialist movement.

It has also established informal links with the non-Trotskyist London Labour Briefing, which made headlines last year with Mr Peter Tatchell's views on extra-parliamentary activity.

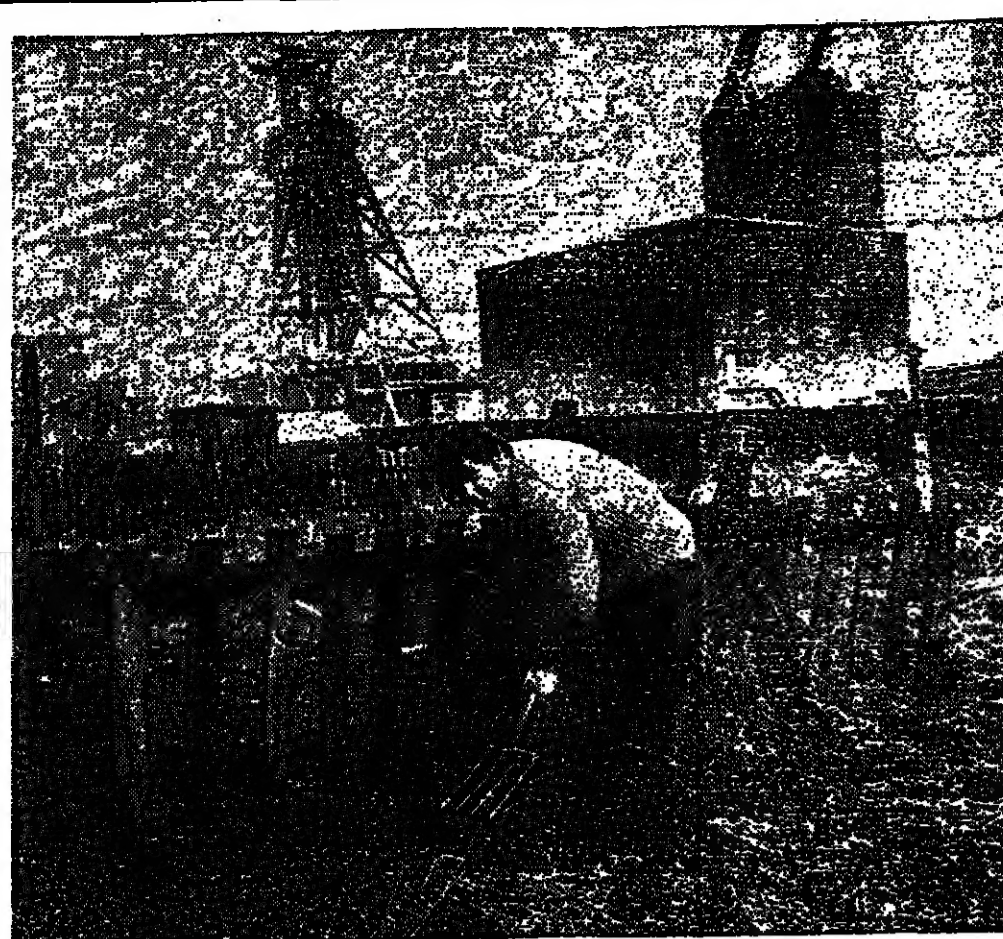
A recent Socialist Organiser analysis of Mr Foot's counter-attack on Mr Tatchell says bluntly: "Foot lies to himself

and to the Labour movement about the present condition of parliamentary democracy.

"For Foot, radical, direct action is not superseded by Parliament. The Labour movement must bow down to Parliament." But the alliance states that the workers have every right to resist to make it impossible for the government to govern, and bring it down.

Mr John Bloxam, the alliance secretary, says in the latest edition of the Organiser's arbitration newspaper: "Labour's Bennites have given up the fight against the right. He says they would appear to have accepted the basic argument which has crippled the left again and again: that Labour must sink its differences to win elections, and that therefore, since the right-wing won't give ground on essentials, the left must."

And at the launch meeting of yet another left grouping, Labour Liaison 82, this coming Saturday, the Socialist Organiser will argue that the fight must be maintained on all fronts, to recapture complete Mr Bloxam states: "The existing leadership does not fight for party policies, and must be replaced."



Trevor Keeling: Nobody can afford a strike.

What miners think: Nottinghamshire

By Nicholas Timmins

In the isolated village of Newstead, Nottinghamshire, with its battered nineteenth century miners' terraces, totally dominated by the pit, there are few signs of the X-regression car and the mortgages that Sidney Vincent, the Lancashire miners president, said affected the miners cannot afford a strike.

Although some at the Newstead colliery, where 1,200 miners produce 750,000 tons a year from the 127-year-old pit, insist the vote is evenly split, there seems little doubt that the traditionally moderate Nottinghamshire miners have voted against a strike.

"The time isn't right," said Mr Alan Pickering, aged 48, a miner and a face worker at Newstead for the past 27 years.

Sitting in a bus with 20 face workers just off the day shift, almost all of whom said they voted against the executive, he said: "I voted for a strike in 1972 and 1974 and I voted for Arthur Scargill because he's the best man for the job whether he's left or right. But it's up to us to decide what we want to do. We are not going to get a deal more from a strike, nor in this climate." The offer, he said, was not great.

"But it's better than a kick in the eye and it's the highest any union has had."

Several said they could not afford a strike. Others that there was political motivation behind the ballot. "Some of the men thought they were using us as a battering ram to get Maggie out," one said. "I would rather have the money in the pocket than be walking round the streets wondering what to do next."

If some of the face workers, who take home between £100 and £110 a week feel they cannot

afford a strike, the same goes for Trevor Keeling, aged 29, a surface worker at the pit. He takes home about £70. With a daughter aged nine months, a council house and a spell of unemployment three years ago before he returned to Newstead, he said, "I do not think anybody can afford a strike to be honest."

"If there was a strike, the pit would shut itself. You don't vote for money and not have a job." Managing on the money was a struggle, he said, but a strike would have cost more than it gained.

Those who voted for the executive insisted that the offer would have been improved without a strike. They believed the pre-poll article by Mr Joseph Gormley, rapidly planned up by the management at some pits, had its effect.

"It was every talking point," said Brian Walker, the branch secretary. "People here have taken notice. It frightened them. It's indefensible when a president does that."

"That Joe Gormley," said a duly underground repair man at the colliery, gesturing towards a 200 foot high lightning pylon at the pit. "He wants hanging on that pylon by the longest rope you can find. A lot of people listen to him. He should have kept his mouth shut, he is retiring."

He voted for the miners' executive recommendation that it should be given power to call industrial action if necessary, but conceded that Mr Gormley's intervention probably did not alter the way the ballot has gone at Newstead.

"There's too many young lads with too much debt around their necks," he said.

Wales

Close vote puts jobs before pay

From Tim Jones, Cardiff

Militant miners' leaders in South Wales appeared last night to have misjudged again the mood of their members as it seemed that the area would fall to give overwhelming backing to the national executive's call for the power to authorize a strike, if necessary, over pay.

Some lodge (union branch) officials were even predicting that the area identified as being staunchly in support of Mr Arthur Scargill, the president-elect, would fail to back the executive by falling short of the 55 per cent of votes needed to demonstrate its support.

Because of the blizzards, the men did not vote until Tuesday and militants were hoping that widespread support by the 27,000 miners could hold the key to the national result.

Mr Joseph Gormley, the outgoing president, and the national press emerged as the villains.

Mr Tom Bowden, lodge secretary at Bargued, said: "I was at the pithead at 5 am and before going down about 70

miners condemned Mr Gormley. To call him a Judas would be polite and once again he has proved he is a turncoat.

He added: "At present our members are more concerned about job retention than they are about wages."

Mr Ivor England, of the Maerdy colliery, accused Mr Gormley of hypocrisy.

From Wyndham-Western colliery another miner expressed a contrary view: "I voted for the 9.5 per cent pay offer because I felt a long and bitter strike would achieve very little

Scargill blames 'unholy alliance'

By Lucy Hodges

action can come out and argue against his own union is beyond my understanding.

"Joe Gormley is going to leave this union in a few weeks time with a very sour taste not only in his mouth but in our mouths as well."

Mr Scargill also attacked the National Coal Board. He said the board had spent "thousands and thousands of pounds of money earned by our members" on a campaign to urge people to vote against the National Coal Board.

The sum total of that kind of combination, an unholy

alliance between Ezra and Gormley, resulted in the defeat. I have no doubt that we shall be seeing very shortly that unholy alliance of Lord Matthews, who runs the Daily Express, and possibly Lord Ezra, who is chairman of the coal board, and possibly Lord Gormley sitting in the House of Lords contemplating what they did."

That was not sour grapes on his part, Mr Scargill said. The executive committee, with one exception, disagreed with Mr Gormley's action.

Rail dispute

The conflict at the heart of the matter

By David Felton, Labour Reporter

Two understandings on pay and productivity reached at the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service offices in London last August lie at the heart of the dispute between British Rail and the footplate men's union.

BR insists that the pay element is dependent on agreement to productivity improvements, but the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen (Aslef) argues that the two understandings were separate.

The Aslef talks were called last summer after BR said it could not afford to implement a two-stage 11 per cent pay award made by the Railway Staff National Tribunal (RSNT).

The Aslef meetings ended with the Railway Staff National Tribunal (RSNT), BR's bitter negotiating board being convened. The document signed by BR and the three rail unions said: "The RSNT has reached an understanding on pay. It is a decision No 75, a separate understanding has been reached on productivity."

The relevant paragraph of the tribunal's findings read: "We fully appreciate that

Leaders of Aslef called next week's strikes as attempts were made by Aslef to reconvene Tuesday's talks. It is possible that Mr Pat Lowery, chairman of Aslef, will call for a meeting to join talks today and it is expected that further attempts will be made to find a formula which would allow arbitration as a means of settling the dispute (David Felton writes).

given the financial and market constraints that press on the industry, adequate pay and conditions must continue to be dependent on what can be done to maintain and improve productivity."

A minute of the staff council discussions at Aslef refers to proposals to BR to pay an award made by the National Union of Railwaymen on behalf of all the unions.

The basis was that the tribunal decision should stand; and that introduction of the shorter working week should be delayed until January 1982, when the second stage, 3 per cent, of the award should also be paid,

Arbitration formula sought

The guards who are threatening to strike tomorrow are members of the NUR, which has accepted the flexible rostering proposals that are at the heart of British Rail's dispute with Aslef.

Mr Raymond Buckton, general secretary of Aslef, said after his executive's meeting yesterday morning that the present pattern of two-day strikes each week, no Sunday working and bans on overtime and rest day working would continue.

The stated understanding on pay closely followed the lines of the unions' counter-proposal, with a few small additions.

The understanding on productivity falls under six headings and while the unions made no commitment to introducing measures, they were set by which negotiations should be completed. They were:

Open station concept, to remove barrier staff from checking tickets at stations and allow more inspection on trains. Talks to be completed

I'm staying, Ripper police chief says

From Ronald Kershaw, Wakefield

Mr Ronald Gregory, Chief Constable of West Yorkshire, said last night that he had no intention of resigning.

He also said that he had no regrets over the Yorkshire Ripper investigation except perhaps that officers who were fully committed to the inquiry had been castigated in the Byford report the way they had been.

Emerging from a three-hour meeting of the West Yorkshire police committee, Mr Gregory was asked if he was to retire. He said he would in not more than four years but he acknowledged it might be before that. However, he added: "I am going to sort out the job."

Mr Gregory said there had been no discussion at the meeting about resignation or retirement.

Mr Gregory said morale in the West Yorkshire police force was high. It had been a bit low because no officers from West Yorkshire were going to be accepted for promotion to assistant chief constable. Now two were being considered.

Mr Gregory said he was sure the police had not lost the confidence of the public in West Yorkshire. The people had appreciated the difficulties at the time of the Ripper investigation. "The superintendent who can make the right decision at the right time has not been born."

The committee adopted a mildly belligerent attitude when considering the statement by Mr William Whitehead, the Home Secretary, in the Commons on Tuesday on the shortcomings of the West Yorkshire police during the Ripper hunt.

The committee criticized the Home Secretary for not making available to it the full report of Mr Lawrence Byford, HM Inspector of Constabulary, and called for a meeting to be attended by Mr Byford and Sir James Crane, HM Chief Inspector of Constabulary.

Mr Gregory told the committee that Mr Byford was in some difficulty in conducting the inquiry into the police investigation because he had inspected the force while the investigation was under way.

Mr Gregory said he had not seen the report but knew of the two main points of criticism: one about speed, though at one stage to have been sent by the Ripper, and the other about the compilation and collection of information.

He said: "We sought the use of a computer in 1977 and we were told it would take two years to convert the information we had to the computer, and in the police service in the country there was no computer for us to use."

Science report

Vitamin E may save sight of babies

By Our Medical Correspondent

Very small, premature babies commonly have immature lungs and need to be nursed in an incubator with extra oxygen if they are to survive. Without enough oxygen the baby's brain may suffer irreversible damage. Unfortunately, if the paediatrician gives too high a concentration of oxygen another complication may develop: damage to the blood vessels of the eyes. The condition is called retrolental fibroplasia, which if severe can cause permanent blindness.

The connection between excess oxygen and retrolental fibroplasia has been recognized for 30 years but it has become more important recently as improvements in neonatal medicine have led to the survival of more of the smallest babies, in whom the risk of retrolental fibroplasia is greatest.

Despite a number of research studies, no level of oxygen can be recommended. A partial solution may, however, be found in vitamin E.

Early trials of treatment with vitamin E gave somewhat inconclusive results, but some more encouraging figures have emerged from a project at the Baylor College of Medicine in Texas. One hundred and one premature babies weighing under 1500g (3.3 lb) were divided into two groups. Those given vitamin E had substantially less severe retrolental fibroplasia than those of none of the treated babies developed the most severe, grade three, damage to their eyes.

New England Journal of Medicine, December 3, 1981, p 1365.

BINGO WAR BOOSTS NEWSPAPERS

By Robert Jones

Fleet Street's popular daily newspapers increased their circulation by a total of 540,000 copies to 13,072,058 in the past six months of 1981, thanks to bingo. That would mean an increase of about 56m in revenue compared with the current cost of the present bingo competition which are estimated by one City analyst at about £15m.

It could be argued that the circulation gain from bingo has been greater because, without bingo, circulation might have been expected to fall, given the long-term trend and the effects of the recession. On the other hand, had it not been for the intensive competition generated by the bingo war, newspapers might have increased their cover prices more to take account of increases in costs.

The Daily Star, which began bingo first in the region early in 1981, has seen its circulation gain and increased by 474,000 to 1,500,000. The circulation of The Sun, which began bingo in June, went up by 396,000 to 4,100,000. However, both the Daily Star and The Sun held their prices at 5p.

The Daily Mirror, which increased its price by 2p to 14p in September, suffered a loss of 185,000 in circulation to 3,600,000 on the half year. The Daily Express and the Daily Mail, which increased their prices by 3p to 15p in July, showed falls of 68,000 and 2,100,000 and 61,000 to 1,900,000 respectively.

Overall, the popular Sunday newspapers, which have not changed their prices, have suffered a loss of 140,000 to 14,600,000 in combined circulation.

The biggest loser has been the Sunday People, down 163,000 to 3,600,000.

The national "quality" newspapers have lost 52,000 in circulation to 2,200,000. The biggest loser has been The Daily Telegraph, whose circulation fell by 91,000 to 1,300,000, following an increase of 3p to 18p in the cover price last August. The Times increased its circulation by 19,000 to 2,298,000 and The Guardian by 18,000 to 387,000, a price increase of 5p to 30p in August. The Financial Times put on 2,000 to 198,000, helped by an extensive television advertising campaign.

Among the "quality" Sunday newspapers, the circulation of The Observer has fallen by 42,000 to 887,000, that of The Sunday Telegraph by 85,000 to 917,000 and that of The Sunday Times by 66,000 to 1,400,000.

TALKS PLEDGED

Controls for vetting the type of jobs senior police officers may take after they leave the police force are to be discussed by Mr William Whitehead, Home Secretary, with chief constables after criticism of the appointment of a senior officer at Scotland Yard to an executive position in the reconstituted Playboy gambling empire.

Earlier this month Mr Peter Nevels, deputy assistant commissioner in charge of publicity, refused to join Trident Television, which has bought Playboy's casinos.

Overseas sell-off prices
Australia 5p 25c, Bahrain 10c 0.50p, Belgium 10c 1.20p, Canada 10c 1.20p, Denmark 10c 1.20p, Finland 10c 1.20p, France 10c 1.20p, Germany 10c 1.20p, Greece 10c 1.20p, Hong Kong 10c 1.20p, India 10c 1.20p, Ireland 10c 1.20p, Italy 10c 1.20p, Japan 10c 1.20p, Korea 10c 1.20p, Malaysia 10c 1.20p, Mexico 10c 1.20p, New Zealand 10c 1.20p, Norway 10c 1.20p, Pakistan 10c 1.20p, Portugal 10c 1.20p, Singapore 10c 1.20p, South Africa 10c 1.20p, Spain 10c 1.20p, Sweden 10c 1.20p, Switzerland 10c 1.20p, Taiwan 10c 1.20p, Thailand 10c 1.20p, Turkey 10c 1.20p, U.K. 10c 1.20p, U.S.A. 10c 1.20p, Yugoslavia 10c 1.20p.

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Closed shop victory for women

Labour-controlled Walsall council has been ordered to reinstate four dinner staff dismissed last May because they refused to join a union closed shop (Our Birmingham Correspondent writes).

The West Midlands Council could face paying substantial compensation awards to the women if it does not follow a Birmingham industrial tribunal yesterday that the women were unfairly dismissed.

One of the four, Mrs Doris Todd, aged 36, of Fosseway Drive, Edgbaston, told the tribunal she was sent to Coventry by her workmates because she refused to be a union member. She blamed the union for that.

Mr William Gage, counsel for Walsall, told the tribunal: "I concede that these women were unfairly dismissed," but he said it would be impractical to reinstate them.

Mr Richard Smith, the tribunal chairman, who said he believed it was the first case of its kind under the 1980 Employment Act, ordered the women's reinstatement within two months, and said compensation payments could be inflated if the ruling was not heeded.

Oil sponsorship aids theatre

The National Youth Theatre, which ran into financial difficulties when its Arts Council grant was withdrawn last year, had its future assured yesterday with the announcement of £65,000 in sponsorship for the coming year from Texaco Ltd.

Although both parties were coy about the sums involved and the duration, it seems certain that Texaco intend to sponsor the National Youth Theatre for some time.

The announcement was made by Sir Ralph Richardson, president of the National Youth Theatre, who said Texaco had been very generous.

Humanists call for law reform

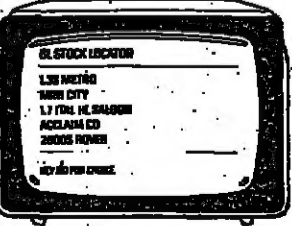
The British Humanist Association has proposed in evidence to the Law Commission that all offences specifically related to religious belief should be done away with, our Religious Correspondent writes.

But the National Board of Catholic Women has urged the commission to uphold the law of blasphemy on the ground that it is "an assault upon the mind and spirit" analogous to physical assault.

Inquiry postponed

A public inquiry into plans to build a controversial pressurized water nuclear reactor at Sizewell, Suffolk has been postponed until next year, so that safety studies can be completed and the findings published.

BL dealers lead world with Viewdata link.



Now that BL Cars have installed the world's first private nationwide Viewdata service in BL showrooms, prospective buyers can check on availability of any car in seconds.

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Viewdata is simpler and cheaper to use than conventional computer

systems.

Over half of BL Cars distributors and main dealers now have this highly sophisticated stock locator system installed as part of a drive to improve customer services.

BL Fighting back

Doctors face threat of abortion prosecutions

By Annabel Ferriman, Health Services Correspondent

Several doctors have been reported to the Director of Public Prosecutions by the Department of Health and Social Security for allegedly failing to provide full medical reasons for the abortions they carry out.

Under a new abortion notification form introduced last March, doctors no longer have the option of stating non-medical grounds for carrying out an abortion.

They are being asked specifically to name the main medical condition that would make continuation of the pregnancy a greater risk to the physical or mental health of the mother than its termination.

Some doctors have resisted the new form and have failed to fill it in fully. One doctor, for example, named pregnancy as the main medical condition causing the patient to need an abortion.

The department is referring those cases to the DPP for an opinion on whether the abortions were legal. If the DPP decides they were not, the doctors will face prosecution.

The change in the form is seen by many pro-abortionists as a back-door attempt to

change the working of the Abortion Act, 1967.

The National Abortion Campaign said: "The Act says that doctors may take a woman's social circumstances into account when determining whether continuing her pregnancy would be a risk to her health."

"We believe the DHSS has undermined the actual wording of the Act by interpreting this to mean that there must be a medical condition, present or anticipated, to justify an abortion."

"Anti-abortionists have repeatedly failed to get legislation through Parliament on these lines, and we believe this restriction is an attempt to accomplish through administrative means what has failed in open debate."

A doctor who was not familiar with the Act might feel legally unable to perform an abortion unless the woman had a specifically medical condition it said.

The DHSS denied that it was trying to tighten up the working of the Act, but said it had a duty to ensure the law was being obeyed. "In no way are we putting pressure

on doctors not to perform abortions.

"The form changed because on the old form the information was not always completed properly. We were being criticized because there was no systematic data about the medical condition of the women."

"We are not saying that social conditions should no longer be taken into account."

The British Medical Association said it was very disturbing that doctors were being reported to the DPP, but declined to comment further until more details were available.

It said there had not been very good consultation with the profession over the change of form, but association committees found that it reflected the terms of the Act, which the BMA supports.

"If this is shown not to be the case then we shall have to make inquiries but we have had complaints so far from our members."

Life, the anti-abortion group, said it was "delighted that at last the DHSS is doing its job".

Training in mental health law proposed

By Lucy Hodges

Social workers should be trained in mental health law and civil liberties, according to draft guidelines drawn up by a government-organized group which is consulting interested parties.

The proposals arise from the Mental Health (Amendment) Bill, progressing through the Lords, which says that only approved social workers will be allowed to undertake such jobs as committing people compulsorily to mental hospitals.

Until now social workers with no special training in mental health were able to do that. Moreover there has been confusion about the role of social workers in relation to the client and the doctors involved in a case.

Under the guidelines a national register of approved social workers will be established and a crash training programme organized before the new Act is implemented.

The guidelines say that each local social services department should set up a panel to handle the training programme. Authorities which have mental welfare officers will have to ensure they are retrained within two years of the passage of the Act.

There is to be no formal National Health Service inquiry into a series of suicides at a psychiatric unit on the fifth floor of the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Birmingham. Instead the unit may be reopened in order to save funds. Twelve patients have jumped to their deaths from windows.

It closed last year after three such deaths in succession. But the West Midlands Regional Health Authority yesterday rejected local requests for an inquiry.

The authority's board meeting was told by Dr Angus McGregor, the regional medical officer, that suicide was not listed as a cause of death on returns made by hospitals.



From the wilderness: Angela Whittington and Julia Moorhouse with Mrs Kath Brown and friends from the 11th Dewsbury Guides and Brownies, who won £400 for transporting derelict land in West Yorkshire into Baden-Powell Park, a public garden specially for the disabled.

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Council told how to save £1m

A team of businessmen that investigated Peterborough City Council say £1m could be saved by cutting staff and increasing efficiency.

The report says recruitment should cease; staff should be dismissed and overtime working out. There should be more sub-contracting of council work; telephone calls from the town hall monitored; municipal office space reduced; more charged for council swimming pools and the number of free car parking spaces for employees cut.

Mr Charles Swift, the council's Labour leader, welcomed the report as objective and constructive. He invited the team to return in six months to judge whether their criticisms had been answered.

August baby for Frosts

David Frost, the television personality, and his wife Lynn Frederick, the actress, are expecting their first baby in August.

Mr Frost, announcing the news in London yesterday, said: "Both Lynn and I are ecstatic. We are over the moon."

The baby will mean less travelling for Mr Frost but he said he will still be joining independent television's breakfast network when it goes on the air in May next year.

Cinema project is launched

A 300-seat auditorium for Filmhouse, Scotland's leading film centre in Edinburgh, opens next month.

The project will cost £600,000 and at its London launch yesterday, Mr Jim Hickey, director, said £180,000 was still outstanding.

Scottish rape case Solicitor-General to answer MPs

By Alan Hamilton

Mr Nicholas Fairbairn, Solicitor-General for Scotland, will attempt to explain in a Commons statement today the controversial decision by the Scottish law officers not to prosecute three teenagers for the alleged rape and attempted murder of a Glasgow woman, aged 30.

The widespread outrage at the decision has shattered the cosy image of Scotland's independent prosecutors, the procurators-fiscal, nurtured by the actor, Iain Cuthbertson, in the popular television series *Sutherland's Law*, and has brought obloquy on the head of the prosecuting system's chief law officer, the Lord Advocate.

Scotland's legal roots lie in Continental Roman law rather than English common law; while English law is traditionally based on precedent, Scots law is based more on principle. The main difference is that Scotland has always separated the functions of investigation and prosecution. In England the police prosecute in most cases; in Scotland, rarely so.

Procurators-fiscal, who are attached to the sheriff courts throughout Scotland, are civil servants appointed by the Crown. Most are solicitors by training. It is they who take the police evidence



Lord Mackay of Clashfern: Discretion on prosecutions

and decide whether there is a case to answer, and it is they who prosecute.

Serious cases are referred to the headquarters of the fiscal service in Edinburgh. All rape cases are referred, and, if proceeded with, come before the High Court.

The Crown Office is headed by the Lord Advocate, at present Lord Mackay of Clashfern, aged 54, a former leading member of the Scottish Bar, and a political appointee of Mrs Margaret Thatcher in 1979. Edinburgh legal circles describe him as

having been an outstanding lawyer with a wide general practice. In particular, serious or notable cases Lord Mackay would himself appear in court as prosecuting counsel.

Extremely wide discretion is given to the Lord Advocate in deciding whether a case should proceed, but his main considerations are whether there is sufficient evidence to constitute a *prima facie* case, and whether prosecution would be in the public interest.

Probably the most significant rule governing his actions, and one which certainly applies in the Glasgow case, is that once the Crown Office has sent letters to individuals who might have been prosecuted, stating that the case is being dropped, there is no mechanism for reversing the decision.

Private prosecution is virtually unknown in Scotland, but it is theoretically possible, once the Lord Advocate has refused a prosecution, for an injured party to apply to the High Court in Edinburgh for a grant to pursue a private prosecution.

Patrick Meehan, released after a seven-year sentence on a murder charge, failed in his attempt to pursue a private prosecution against the police for perjury.

Jobs go as Navy drops radar deal

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

A total of 750 jobs at the Marconi defence complex are to be lost because of the Ministry of Defence's cancellation of a multi-million pound final order for tracking and surveillance radar for the Royal Navy's Sea Wolf missile.

The Navy said the order was cancelled as part of a process of adjusting weapons and equipment programmes to match the reduced size of the surface fleet.

Under last June's defence review it was decided to halt construction of the Navy's super frigates, the type 22's worth £120m each, after seven orders and to scrap modernization of the older Leander-class frigates.

Both classes of ship were to be fitted with the Mark One heavyweight Sea Wolf, a weapon designed to destroy attacking enemy warships, anti-air missiles.

The job losses will be at Marconi plants in the Chelmsford, Essex, area and at Gateshead, Tyne and Wear, the company said yesterday.

The company said it reviewed the employment levels its reduced business could sustain after the cancellation. "Consequently, and with much regret, the company has notified its employees, trade union representatives and the Department of Employment of 460 redundancies in the Chelmsford area. The Gateshead establishment has also been affected where 290 jobs had become redundant."

The RAF is to boost Britain's anti-aircraft missile defences by setting up three new bases in East Anglia in the next two years. Whitehall officials confirmed yesterday. The RAF is calling back three flights of ageing Bloodhound missiles, which first became operational in 1964, from British bases in West Germany to strengthen missile stations in Britain.

The missiles from Bruggen and Wildenrath will be moved to Barkston Heath, Lincolnshire, and Wyton, Cambridgeshire, early next year.

Pakistan is to buy the Royal Navy's 6,300 ton destroyer HMS London. It is the latest ship to be sold as part of the surface fleet reductions.

Conservatives in dispute over electoral reform

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

A dispute was building up in the Conservative Party last night over the publication of a pamphlet opposing electoral reform.

The document, published today by the Conservative Political Centre, is written by Sir Angus Maude, the former Paymaster General, and Mr John Semerey, a political journalist.

It argues that reformers must produce a precisely detailed scheme, tailored for Britain's regional problems, which could eliminate the risk of corruption, gerrymandering and political instability evident in other systems, and concludes: "We do not for a moment believe they can do it."

Yesterday the Conservative Action for Electoral Reform group (CAER) issued a statement saying the pamphlet was a ragbag of clichés which contributed nothing to party needs.

The authors, it said, had not answered the central argument in favour of electoral reform: that Britain, in comparison with her main trading rivals, had been noticeably unsuccessful since the Second World War. Conservatives who favoured electoral reform believed the electoral system to be an important factor contributing to that decline.

Mr Anthony Wigram, chairman of Conservative Action for Electoral Reform

attacked the authors for paying little heed to the threat posed by the Liberal-SDP alliance. "For a pamphlet written and published by an intellectual element of the Tory Party to skate over the alliance in a couple of paragraphs is not good enough."

Mr Richard Holme, director of the all-party Campaign for Electoral Reform, said the pamphlet was obviously a propaganda exercise and should not be taken seriously. "The dwindling body of those who oppose PR are swimming against a flood tide of public opinion. Repeated opinion polls have shown that those MPs who oppose reform speak only for a few vested interests."

The pamphlet says the first-past-the-post system generally produces effective governments with adequate working majorities, whereas other systems can produce unstable coalitions and that enables close contact between the individual and his constituency. MP and allows by-elections.

Under proportional representation, it says MPs owe their entire allegiance to the party chiefs. Months can be wasted in wheeling and dealing between parties after elections.

Why electoral change? The case for PR examined. (CPC, 32 Smith Square, London SW1, £2)

Tory unease over SDP

By Our Parliamentary Staff

Mr Cecil Parkinson, chairman of the Conservative Party, yesterday demonstrated the party's unease at the prospect of meeting combined Liberal/SDP AND labour onslaughts at the next general election, although he said he was positive that the Tories would enjoy resounding success.

In a speech to the Parliamentary Press Gallery yesterday, Mr Parkinson declared those inclined to write off the Labour Party. "Those who think that the Labour Party will go into the next election in its present state are totally wrong," he said.

While conceding that the SDP had had its successes, Mr Parkinson rounded on its leading figures and in particular Mr Roy Jenkins, the

new candidate in the forthcoming by-election in Glasgow, Hillhead. He branded Mr Jenkins as the most deflationary Chancellor of the Exchequer since the war, and attacked the credibility of the "Gang of Four" who presently share the SDP joint leadership.

He pointed out that unlike the Liberals, the SDP leadership had had and used power. They had had the opportunity to do things and judged by that standard they were vulnerable, Mr Roy Jenkins in particular.

In his budget of 1968 Mr Jenkins had put up direct taxes by £3,000m, especially the duty on whisky. In every budget he had raised taxes and pursued highly deflationary budgets, except that in April, 1970.

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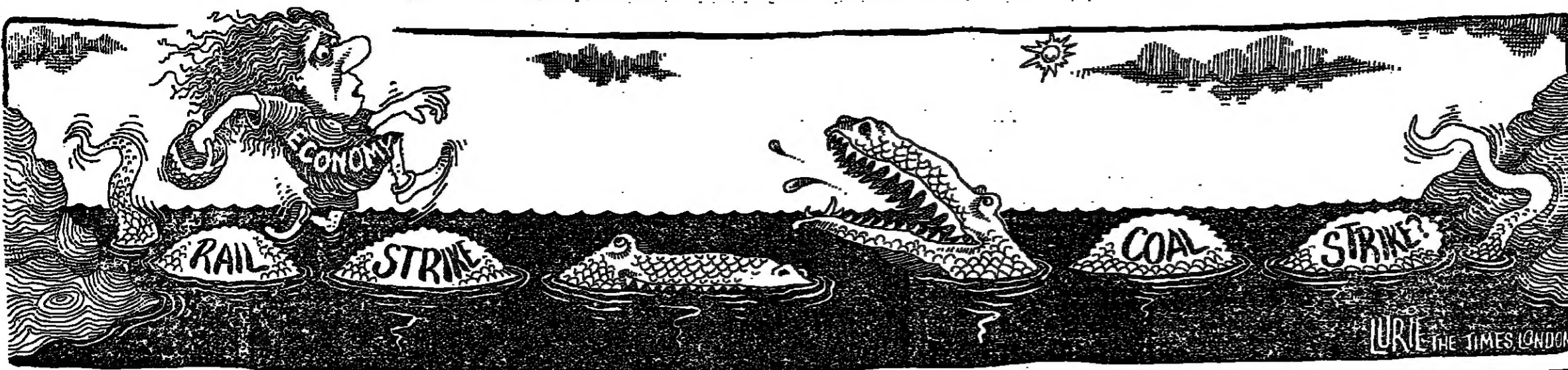
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Puzzle of London rate rebates

By David Walker

Fewer than 15,000 London households and firms have asked for a refund of the supplementary rate levied in the autumn to pay for the Greater London Council's "Fares Fair" cheap travel policy.

An estimated 600,000 of Greater London's 3.2 million ratepayers, houses and companies had paid some of the levy before the Court of Appeal declared it illegal in November. None will get interest and few will get a cash refund because most borough councils intend to credit ratepayers' ordinary accounts.

However, some councils are preparing to repay the supplementary rates whether ratepayers ask or not. For example, 17,000 people in the borough of Barnet who paid the rate will get the money back in a week or so. They

will get a cash refund or have their February rates instalment adjusted. Council tenants will have their combined rent and rates payments temporarily reduced. If the Prime Minister, who maintains a home in Flood Street, had paid the supplementary rate, she would have to ask Kensington and Chelsea borough council for a refund, but so far about only a hundred requests have been made.

Most boroughs have rescinded their decision to levy the supplementary rate as a legal formality, but consider the costs of refunding cash to be too high and prefer crediting ratepayers.

In the inner London boroughs calculations are complicated by part of the supplementary rate which was to pay for extra spending by the Inner London Education Authority.

The London Boroughs Association has advised that a fresh rate has to be levied to cover this amount. In some cases supplementary rates already paid will be credited against the new charge.

Westminster is likely to levy a fresh rate, but neighbouring Camden plans to pay ILEA out of its cash reserves.

That policy difference emerges from yet another of the legal puzzles uncovered by the GLC fares ruling. Camden has been advised that the rating laws prohibit boroughs from making a fresh levy while they hold money in their reserves.

The London Boroughs Association has received conflicting opinion, but until the issue is settled, the inner-London councils will not make a final decision and will

be unable to repay any money.

Mr John Marlowe, director of finance in Camden, explained that much as he would like a settlement, he cannot by law repay the 500 local ratepayers who have asked for a refund until the council rescinds the old supplementary rate and decides on a new one.

Mr Marlowe said the idea that supplementary rate payers should get interest was misconceived. The cost of calculating interest was high, and so would impose a burden on all ratepayers. He said it was not in their interest and was therefore probably illegal.

□ Somerset County Council's rates are to increase in 1982-83 by only 6.9 per cent, which is likely to be one of the lowest rises in the country.

Import of whales to be curbed

By David Nicholson-Lord

The Government seems certain to tighten its restrictions on the import of dolphins and killer whales for oceanaria after the death in captivity last month of a whale newly shipped from Iceland.

The whale, one of three brought to a dolphinarium at Clacton Pier, Essex, apparently suffered a ruptured kidney after being bullied by its companions.

But scientists from the Nature Conservancy Council believe lack of space in the pool may have been partly responsible and they are understood to have rejected an application by Clacton to import a fourth whale as a replacement.

Mr Tom King, the Minister of State for the Environment, is being recommended to lay down stricter guidelines for the granting of import licences. Those are thought to cover standards of transport and accommodation.

They are likely to affect the operations of many smaller oceanaria, particularly if they are applied to animals already in Britain.

Imports matter to oceanaria because cetaceans generally, and certainly the killer whale, do not breed in captivity.

But the Clacton case has also highlighted aspects of the Endangered Species Act of 1976 which have drawn fire from conservationists and, in one instance been acknowledged as anomalous by Department of Environment officials.

When granting licences under the Act, for example, the department is not required to take account of the welfare of the animals in the exporting country.

The three Clacton whales were kept in Iceland in a "seaquarium" where conditions have been alleged by Greenpeace, the international environment group, to be disgraceful.

Incidents at the seaquarium, it says, include two whales in an exposed pool dying of frostbite.

The Clacton case has been raised in a Commons question by Mr Tam Dalyell, Labour's science spokesman, who said yesterday that the dimensions of the pool housing the three animals appeared totally inadequate. Mr David Howe, director of Clacton Pier, declined to comment.

According to Mr Mark Glover, Greenpeace wildlife campaigner, the trade in whales is legal, "but we still think it is wrong."

Police union chief criticizes Scarman

by Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Mr James Jardine, chairman of the Police Federation last night criticized Lord Scarman's diagnosis of one of the causes of the Brixton riots.

He spoke of "an upside down world" in which Lord Scarman was persuaded to believe that action against cause and Commander Brian Fairbairn, the officer in charge locally, had felt it necessary to apologize for high-profile policing.

"In my view Lord Scarman has not been able to provide a satisfactory answer to the most important question that he asked: 'How do the police in the inner city deal with a very high level of street crime, while at the same time retaining the support of all'."

Mr Jardine, speaking in Guildford, Surrey, said that many old people were afraid to go out in the areas in which they were born and bred and spent the whole of their lives.

A police commander had to look for measures to bring short-term results when faced with a surge of muggings. It would not be stopped by doubling the number of officers sent round to schools to talk to children. Nor would public appeals to the muggers work.

The only way was to cut dramatically the odds against a mugger being caught by making sure the police were on the streets.

But he agreed with Lord Scarman that police training should be improved.

Mr Jardine wants probationer police officers to have longer and better training. "We are not going to be forced off with a couple of extra weeks for lectures on how to be polite to the public, the meaning of body language or the exact significance of a Rastafarian's dreadlocks."

Solicitors face ban

Three solicitors were ordered by the Solicitors' Disciplinary Tribunal in London yesterday to be struck off for unbecoming conduct.

Emlyn Oliver Gribble, aged 69, of Heol Trelai, Ely, Cardiff, was convicted on his own confession at Cardiff Crown Court on November 5, 1980, of theft and was jailed for nine months.

John Thorneycroft-Woodgate, of Heighston Street, Fife, near Lewis, East Sussex, was found guilty of breaches of the solicitors' accounts rules and

of using clients' money for his own purposes.

Matthew Gibb, of Grays Inn Square, London, was found guilty of using clients' money for his own purposes and for other clients' purposes. Each has 14 days in which to lodge notice of appeal.

□ Mr Philip Altman, of Northwood Hall, Hornsey Lane, London, is to have his name restored to the roll of solicitors. In November 1975 the Solicitors' Disciplinary Tribunal ordered Mr Altman to be struck off for using clients' money for his own purposes.

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Candle ban at Manilow concerts

Fans of Barry Manilow were banned yesterday from performing the ritual of lighting candles for the American singer at the end of his Manchester concert. The city council's environmental services committee told the management of the Apollo theatre that because of the fire risk it must take all steps to stop people taking candles into the auditorium.

The council said that if the management failed it would be prosecuted for breaching the conditions of its licence, and it could be revoked. Defiantly, the ban would lead to a high court injunction to stop performances tonight and tomorrow.

"There are no candles to be lit by Barry Manilow or his entourage on the stage," the council added. A press officer for the singer said yesterday: "I have spoken to the promoters and they are aware of the situation. As they come in people are being told not to bring candles, and the situation will be monitored."

Ex-detective killed himself

A former detective superintendent stabbed himself through the heart because he was anxious and depressed, an inquest at Oxford was told yesterday.

Mr Philip Fairweather, aged 58, was found lying in the back garden of his home at Kidlington, Oxfordshire, on December 8. A kitchen knife was beside his body.

Mr Fairweather's wife, Mrs Barbara Fairweather, said her husband had attempted suicide once in the weeks before he died. "Something was causing him great distress and continuous worry," she said.

Mr Nicholas Gardiner, the coroner, recorded a verdict of suicide.

Sark seeks own stamps

Sark's Parliament decided yesterday to ask Guernsey's post office board to issue regional stamps for the feudal island, which has a population of only 490.

The move comes after Guernsey's agreement to issue stamps for Alderney, which had considered running its own postal service.

Fitter gets new heart

Mr Donal Nelson, aged 47, a maintenance fitter from Eastcote, Middlesex, received a new heart in a transplant operation at Harefield Hospital, Middlesex, yesterday.

It is the twenty-seventh heart transplant to be performed at the hospital by Mr Magdi Yacoub the surgeon, and his team. His condition was said to be good last night.

Scaffolder dies in fall

Mr Patrick Carey, aged 48, of Drake's Avenue, Didcot, Oxfordshire, fell to his death on a 15ft metal platform while dismantling scaffolding at Didcot power station yesterday.

Man admits shooting McAliskey

An electrician yesterday admitted attempting to murder Mrs Bernadette McAliskey, the former MP for Mid Ulster, and her husband, Mr Michael McAliskey, who were shot at their home near Coalisland, Co Tyrone, last year.

Andrew Watson, aged 25, of Seymour Hill, Dunsurry, admitted 17 charges, including having guns and bombs, causing explosions and trying to kill Mr William McConville, a Roman Catholic garage owner, at Dromard, Co Down, in November 1980. Belfast Crown Court deferred sentence while three other men face trial on similar charges.

Thomas Graham, aged 39, of Carnogher Road, and Raymond Smallwoods, aged 31, of Edenvale Gardens, both Lisburn, Co Antrim, each deny two charges of attempted murder. Both face three other charges. Their trial is expected to start today.

A fourth man, Julian Nelson, aged 25, from Dromore Street, Ballynahinch, Co Down, denied attempting to murder Mr McConville and two other charges.

□ Army bomb disposal men yesterday defused two bombs in a petrol tanker close to the Northern Ireland border. The tanker was abandoned by the Provisional IRA under a rail bridge at Meigh, south of Newry, on Sunday, and the bombs had been disrupting rail services.

Graduates face bleak job prospects

By Diana Geddes, Education Correspondent

The employment situation facing this year's university and polytechnic graduates is expected to be the worst since the Second World War, according to the three main organizations involved in graduate supply and demand.

Representatives of the Association of Graduate Careers Advisory Services, the Standing Conference of Employers of Graduates and the Central Services Unit for Careers and Appointments Services predicted yesterday that up to 20 per cent of this year's graduates could still be seeking jobs six months after graduation.

In a normal year 5-6 per cent can expect to be unemployed by the end of the year as polytechnic graduates in 1980 that figure rose to 8½ per cent, and early estimates suggest that about 13 per cent of last summer's graduates are still jobless.

The unemployment rate among polytechnic graduates is as usual, higher than among university graduates, but rising in some cases to 30 per cent. Universities like Manchester and London are reporting unemployment rates among last summer's graduates of about 11 to 12 per cent.

The situation is expected to worsen, partly because there will be about 5 per cent more graduates seeking 10 per cent fewer jobs.

However, Mr David Jowett, chairman of the standing conference, predicted an improved demand for graduates within two or three years.

Mr Brian Punt, director of the central service unit, also saw signs that the worst might nearly be over.

As in the past, graduates in arts, some social science subjects, and the biological sciences could find difficulty in getting jobs this year, Mr Jowett said.

But even engineers and physical scientists, may now have to be prepared to look outside the confines of their subject.

□ Hampshire Education Authority yesterday defended a £41,000 voluntary redundancy payment for a senior official after criticism from the National Union of Teachers (the Press Association reports). The authority confirmed that Mr Geoffrey Lumb, aged 60, one of two deputy county education officers, had accepted voluntary redundancy from April after an economy review.

Mr Lumb will get a lump sum superannuation of £30,000 and a redundancy payment of £11,000, on top of his £10,000 a year pension. Mr Jack Chambers, president of the National Union of Teachers said teachers seeking early retirement should get a similar "square deal."

Trident 'no more of a deterrent'

By Henry Stanhope, Defence Correspondent

The purchase of the Trident nuclear missile to succeed Polaris in the 1990s should make little difference to Britain's security, Lord Zuckerman, former Chief Scientific Adviser to the Government, said yesterday.

It would not help Britain to discover a new role in the world, nor replace that which she lost with the Empire. As for the argument that the four Polaris submarines would have worn out by 1990, he said that one should despair of the Western world if international relations had not lost their warlike tone by then.

"We accept the threat now as if it were toothpaste," Lord Zuckerman said at a press conference in London called to introduce his book *Nuclear Illusion and Reality*.

In the book Lord Zuckerman says that there are powerful reasons why Britain should not opt for unilateral disarmament. "Nuclear weapons exist, the knowledge of how to make them exists and cannot be made to vanish," he says.

If Britain were to switch her resources to improving her conventional forces she would play a far more influential role in the defence of the free world than she does at present. He urged speedy progress towards a comprehensive test ban.

Chauffeur sold Crosby antiques

A chauffeur who told a jury at Middlesex Crown Court that he was a police informer, claimed he sold antiques worth £19,500 stolen from the late Bing Crosby, to gain the confidence of art thieves.

Stanley Reginald Addersman, aged 56, of Bulstrode Road, Hounslow, was convicted yesterday of dishonestly assisting in the realization or disposal of a gold snuff box, a gold enamelled cigarette case and two Russian icons, and obtaining £1,200 and a carriage clock from Ekstine Ltd, antique dealers, of Jermyn Street, Westminster, by deception.

Mr Georges Khayat, for the prosecution, said that during Bing Crosby's last tour in October, 1977 his flat in Davies Street, Mayfair, was burgled while he was on stage at the London Palladium.

Part of the property stolen included the icons, snuff box and cigarette case. In May, 1980, Addersman sold the snuff box and case to Ekstine for £1,200 and a carriage clock. He left the icons with a Chelsea dealer.

Addersman told the jury he had previous convictions and had served two prison sentences. Since about 1973 he had been a police informer, because he had been "treated badly by the criminal fraternity."

He told the court he had been asked by a high-ranking Flying Squad officer if he had any information about stolen art treasures. When asked by a man in Soho to sell the Crosby property he agreed, believing he could gain the confidence of art thieves. "The police did not tell me to sell the property, but I had to prove to the man that I was one of them," Addersman said.

Plea to Joseph on Welsh activist

From Our Correspondent Ludlow

Parents in mid Wales have sent a telegram to Sir Keith Joseph, the Secretary of State for Education, urging him to allow Mr Wayne Williams, the Welsh language activist, to keep his teaching job.

A High Court judge suspended Mr Williams, a former chairman of the Welsh Language Society, from teaching Welsh at Llanidloes High School, Powys, after parents said they did not want him teaching their children because of his conviction and prison sentence for conspiracy to damage broadcasting equipment.

But there is growing support for Mr Williams. One hundred and fifty people attended a meeting at Llanidloes on Tuesday, and decided to send a telegram to Sir Keith.

A spokesman for parents supporting Mr Williams said: "He is an excellent teacher and has never attempted to introduce his political views into the classroom."

Mr Williams, aged 28, has spoken of his experiences in Swansea prison, where he served six months of his nine-month sentence (Tony Samstag writes).

He said he had been appalled at the number of people unable to read or write, who consequently



Mr Wayne Williams: Banned from school.

□ Mr Williams, aged 28, has spoken of his experiences in Swansea prison, where he served six months of his nine-month sentence (Tony Samstag writes).

He said he had been appalled at the number of people unable to read or write, who consequently

spent much of their day sitting around with nothing to do. He said he had offered to teach remedial reading, his offer was refused.

Mr Williams, who was released at Christmas, travelled to London on Monday to put his case for reinstatement to the Department of Education and Science. He felt his interlocutors had been "very fair in the whole matter, although they were not really at fault with anything that has happened in Wales."

He emphasized that he had been convicted because of his formal responsibility as chairman of the Welsh Language Society for activities in which he played no direct part.

□ Chairmanship had since expired and under society rules he could not hold the position again.

The department had assured him that it was aware of the element of urgency in his case, although there was no indication when a decision might be made.

Government action on fuel bills urged

by Pat Healy, Social Services Correspondent

The National Association of Citizens' Advice Bureaux yesterday demanded immediate Government intervention to help people unable to pay their fuel bills. The association said the Government was responsible for the growing amount of fuel poverty which last year led to about 400,000 people seeking help from local bureaux.

"Our bureaux are already inundated with inquiries from people with serious and multiple debts, among which those for fuel inevitably loom large", Lady Ricketts, chairman of the association, said yesterday.

"I dread to think what the situation will be when fuel bills for the current quarter, with its unusually hard weather, start coming in. It is essential that action is taken immediately to meet an exceptional situation."

The association, in its response to the review of the fuel industries code of practice conducted by the Policy Studies Institute, said the basic difficulty could not be resolved without reference to fuel poverty. That was caused by low incomes combined with the high and increasing cost of fuel.

"The high cost of fuel is a result of government policy and unless this is changed, and, for example, fuel subsidies are reintroduced, the fuel industries can do little to lighten the burden on

the domestic consumer", the association said.

The association also said that only government action could remedy inadequate supplementary benefit levels and unrealistic heating allowances. It cited several case studies from bureaux files to illustrate the difficulties some people experienced over their fuel bills.

One pensioner faced with an electricity bill for £116 took a job at a holiday camp to try to pay it at £10 a week. A single parent earning £54 a week and paying £10.48 rent received a bill for £1,019 because the electricity board said the meter had not been read for three years.

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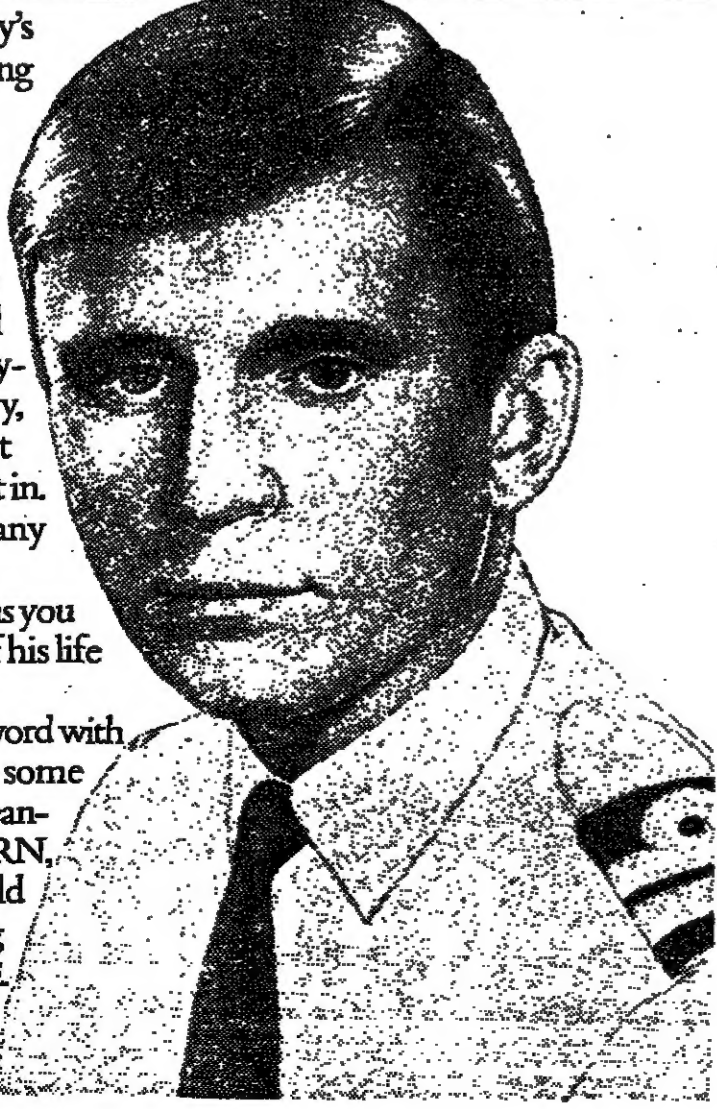
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ROYAL NAVY OFFICER GRADUATE ENTRY



NEWS IN SUMMARY

Crash jet's black box found

Washington. — The chances of discovering the cause of the crash of the Air Florida jet in Washington a week ago rose as recovery teams brought the aircraft's "black box" recorders from the icy river Potomac. (Nicholas Hirst writes).

A spokesman for the National Transportation Safety Board said divers recovered the flight data recorder and cockpit voice recorder from the river shortly after resuming the recovery operations. The flight recorders are particularly valuable in pinpointing the cause of the crash.

Salvage teams had hoped to recover the recorder when the tail section of the aircraft was lifted but they appear to have slipped back into the river as the wreckage was raised. Seventy-eight people died in the crash.

Gaddafi's secret Algiers mission

Algiers. — Colonel Gaddafi and President Chadli of Algeria continued their talks on the third day of the Libyan leader's unexpected visit here.

The details have been kept secret but an Algerian official source said that Colonel Gaddafi was emphasizing the need to "close Arab ranks" against Israel and the United States. There was no confirmation of a claim by the Libyan news agency that the two leaders had reached agreement on important preliminary steps to union between the neighbouring countries.

Iran bans women from ski slopes

Tehran. — Women have been forced off the ski slopes at Dizin, Iran's most popular winter resort, after an Islamic cleric said their presence was leading to un-Islamic and unscrupulous activity.

Local sources said the cleric's revolutionary prosecutor had been alarmed at the tight clothes worn by women skiers.

250th oil death

Madrid. — A 12-year-old girl became the 250th person to die from consuming toxic cooking oil in Spain since last May. More than 400 other victims are still in hospital.

Paris to force through bank nationalization

From Charles Hargrove, Paris, Jan. 20

The socialists will resort to the blocked vote procedure, which they frequently condemned when it was used by conservative governments in the past, to get the new nationalization through the French parliament in record time.

Three days after the Constitutional Council's decision that the original Bill was unconstitutional, the Cabinet today approved the new draft and decided to make it a matter of confidence. This means it will be regarded as adopted without a vote unless a motion of censure is carried against it. With the present Socialist absolute majority in the assembly there is no risk of that.

It is the first time the Socialist Government has used this procedure. M Raymond Barre, when he was Prime Minister, resorted to it several times, notably at the end of 1979, to secure the passage of the budget.

The Socialists declared at the time that the use of the blocked vote was contrary to the spirit of the constitution. But to avoid the risk of delay and obstruction by the opposition, and to reduce to a minimum the period of economically damaging uncertainty before the nationalization takes effect, they have resigned themselves to using it now, some socialist leaders even suggested that the Government should carry out the nationalization by decree.

As it is, the Government is being compelled to carry out the nationalization of banks, as it was of industrial firms,

in two stages. Eighteen out of 36, which are not quoted on the stock exchange, will not be nationalized before the beginning of next year after a special committee of experts has estimated the value of their shares.

The new nationalization bill complies with the decision of the constitutional council. It drops the method of compensation for shareholders proposed in the previous bill and proposes that it should now be calculated on the basis of the highest market price in the six months to March last year, with a 14 per cent appreciation to allow for monetary erosion.

This means that most of the shareholders will get more than under the previous proposals but some will receive less. The cost to the government, and therefore to the taxpayer, will be some 8,000m francs (£730m).

M Laurent Fabius, the Budget Minister, suggested yesterday that the increased cost should be financed by the rich, through a raising of the wealth tax or companies tax. The Socialist and Communist parties and the trades unions agree, but to do this would hardly encourage employers to invest and the Government is in something of a cleft stick.

This inevitably may lead the left to step up its attacks against the Constitutional Council, which it regards as a reactionary institution that has gone against the popular will. In fact, since the left took office the council has rejected a number of actions against Government Bills.



Hot pursuit: A French contender in the hot-air balloon world championships hanging above the Austrian alpine village of Filzmoos. The winner must travel the greatest distance across the Alps.

Drug squad chief accused over undercover deals

From Ian Murray, Brussels, Jan 20

The founder, leader and inspiration of Belgium's elite anti-drug squad (BND), Commandant Léon François, went on trial in Brussels this week on charges connected with the drugs trade.

There are 14 other names on the charge sheet—including that of an agent of the American Drug Enforcement Administration and three other BND officers. Also on trial is the method of fighting drugs trade in Belgium as it has been created by Commandant François over the past decade.

In the early 1970's he was sent to the United States to study methods of tackling the narcotics trade. His training taught him that it was the accepted practice in America for drugs enforcement officers to work undercover, buying and selling narcotics in order to be able to trace networks to their source.

This was contrary to Belgium Law, but Commandant François was able to convince his superiors that it was the only way in which to produce results. Accordingly, a blind eye was initially turned on his small squad's activities. Working undercover they were allowed to drive cars with false number plates and buy themselves into the confidence of the underworld.

The squad became quickly effective. In 1975 Commandant François began tracing the way drugs came into Europe through American Air Force bases. The BND found a good informer, and Commandant François was able to "borrow" 1.6m Belgian francs (£191,500) through the police in order to buy into a cocaine drug ring.

From then on things began to go wrong. The drugs were bought and then found to be of poor quality. The potential buyer withdrew and the BND found itself having to try to recoup the money. A first attempt to sell the poor quality drug to coloured American servicemen failed. Commandant François took the initiative to have the drug purified and mixed with an analgesic powder in order to sell it in Holland.

This much of the evidence has been admitted by Commandant François, who has told the court that he was merely following methods used in the United States to break drug rings. The prosecution has alleged, however, that his real aim was to pocket the money.

He is also alleged to have appropriated two kilograms (4.4lb) of cocaine used to help to train police dogs to sniff out drugs. This was added to the purified quantity and offered for sale to two Dutchmen with whom contact was established in Breda. The Dutchmen turned out to be undercover agents for the Dutch narcotics squad.

Arrigo Levi: A Personal View

Berlinguer party at turning point

There is no doubt that the new official statements by the Italian Communist Party on the Polish crisis and the Soviet system represent a turning point in the history of the party, and in Italian history.

They amount to an "excommunication" of the Soviet Communist Party, they declare that it has exhausted its propelling force and indicate that its "serious pressures" and "unacceptable interferences" are the main reasons for the Polish tragedy and for all the "dramatic recurring crises" in Eastern Europe.

This analysis is accompanied by a total ideological rejection of the Soviet model and by a categorical statement that democracy is necessary for socialism, which might have been signed by Karl Kautsky.

Some of the oldest of the Italian Communists Party (PCI) now recognized that the split caused by the Communists in the Italian Socialist Party in 1921 was a fatal mistake; and that the great social-democratic leader of the time, Filippo Turati, was right when he condemned the split and said that the Communists would, one day, recognize their error.

These are weighty words, though obviously they have come very late. The returning prodigal son is always met by a warm reception. In this particular case, as a matter of fact, the reception by Italy's democratic parties has been mixed.

Everybody has welcomed these resolutions, and the fact that they were reached through an open debate in the party before being approved by its central committee with the sole opposition of Signor Armando Cossutta.

The Christian Democrats, through their leader Signor Giamino Piccoli, have gone as far as admitting that after this turning point in the history of the PCI, the Communist problem appears in a new light. This admission implies that the possibility of government cooperation with the Communists could again be considered by the Christian Democrats. Indeed, the "Communist problem" should be a central issue in the Christian Democratic Party's conference to be held next April.

But these views are not universal. The Socialist leaders have been very critical of the fact that the PCI, while rejecting the Soviet model, still condemns in harsh terms the social democratic experience in the West, while obscurely suggesting that a new third way must be found. The Socialists reply: there is no third way, the lack of a clear Western choice by the PCI still reveals many ambiguities and dangers.

There will be many more such debates between the PCI and the other parties. Indeed, it is important that the Communists should be kept under constant pressure, considering the strong resistance against the announced changes in the party line by a considerable portion of the Communist rank and file. A counter-pressure from outside the party is necessary and useful.

But it seems to me that the real problem in the near future will not be that of measuring correctly, day by day, the progress towards the Western home. I believe that what has happened will by itself already remove many of the ideological obstacles that have prevented the PCI from being accepted as a potential government partner by the other parties, and by Italy's allies.

From now on, Signor Enrico Berlinguer, the Communist leader, will seriously challenge the attempt of Signor Bettino Craxi, the Socialist leader, to become the arbiter of Italian politics.

At present, in the middle of a serious East-West crisis, there remain many obstacles which make it impossible for the PCI to join a government coalition. The PCI opposes any realisation against the Soviet Union or Poland, or any limitation of the West's economic assistance to Poland; it also opposes NATO's Euromissiles. If the PCI had been a member of a government coalition right now a government crisis might have been unavoidable.

But while many responsible people consider that the Communist presence in a government coalition now would be a very bad thing and would weaken the West (and I share this view), the conditions might change.

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NEWS IN SUMMARY

Ecologists lose airport struggle

Bonn. — The ecologists have failed to prevent the building of a third runway at Frankfurt international airport with the rejection by the Hesse High Court of a petition for a Land referendum (Patricia Clough writes).

The decision was the latest and possible decisive blow to the ecologists and local inhabitants in their 15-year legal, political and often physical battle to preserve the last forest in the area.

The court upheld the view of the Hesse government that the referendum petition was directed at civil aviation laws which were not the responsibility of the Land Government. The consortium building the runway said construction, held up pending a decision would continue as soon as possible.

Admiral jailed in Argentina



Buenos Aires. — Retired Admiral Emilio Massera, a former junta member left for the navy garrison in Asul to serve a ten-day sentence imposed on him by the Navy high command.

A Navy source said last night that the Admiral had been arrested as a result of his demands that the government make public a list of people who had disappeared in the "dirty war" against left-wing terrorism. It was his second arrest for criticizing the junta.

Concorde flights cut

Paris. — The French Government has asked Air France to withdraw its Concorde services to Rio de Janeiro and to Caracas, by April 1.

The airline said the Concorde service would have 11 flights a week to New York, of which two would continue to Washington and two to Mexico. On average, only 47 per cent of seats on Concorde flights from Paris to Rio de Janeiro had been used last year compared with 68.3 per cent in 1979. The occupancy rate on flights to Caracas, dropped to 36.1 per cent last year.

French viewers dissatisfied

Paris. — Sixty-eight per cent of French viewers are dissatisfied with their television programmes, according to a Sofres poll published in *Le Parisien Libéré*. By comparison with two years ago, the number of satisfied ones has dropped by half.

The results make rather disappointing reading for the Socialists whose ambition is to raise the cultural standards of television. Forty-five per cent are in favour of a fourth private channel, an idea which is anathema to the left.

President Zia meets the Pope

Rome. — President Zia ul-Haq of Pakistan, was received in audience for half an hour by the Pope. It is taken for granted that he described the condition of the 2.5 million Afghan refugees in Pakistan (Peter Nichols writes).

The Pope will presumably have called for information on human rights in Pakistan. The situation has recently been the subject of a highly critical report by Amnesty International.

Canada Indians appeal delayed

The Appeal Court in London has reserved judgment on an appeal by the Indian Association of Alberta against the High Court's rejection of their claim that the British Government is still bound by its eighteenth and nineteenth century obligations.

The Indians began their legal action after Britain and Canada agreed that any obligations owed to them now rested with the Ottawa Government. They claim that the Royal Proclamation of 1763 was still active and was from the Confederacy Act.

Top KGB man

Moscow. — Mr. Semiyon Tsvigun, the second most powerful man in the KGB, the Soviet security police, has died. Soviet television reported. He was 64. He was also an Army General.

Spanish police seize five tons of arms

From Harry Debelius, Madrid, Jan 20

Spanish police today made their biggest arms find when they seized a five-ton cache in a pre-dawn raid on a farmhouse near the Basque city of Bilbao.

The Interior Ministry described it as the main arsenal of the political-military wing of the separatist movement ETA (Basque Homeland and Liberty). The action, carried out by special forces and anti-terrorist squads, was the second serious blow against ETA in three days. Police moved into the northern mountain village of Trasmorco last Sunday under cover of darkness and rescued Dr. Julio Iglesias, the kidnapped father of the millionaire singer, from ETA-PM (political military).

Today's swoop was said to have been carried out on the basis of information gained from one or more of the four suspects captured last Sunday at the house where Dr. Iglesias was held.

The arms included half a ton of plastic explosives, gunpowder, Soviet-made rocket launchers, mortars, sub-machine guns, automatic rifles, pistols and ammunition. The arsenal was stored in a room under a terrace in back of the house.

A resurgence in neo-Nazi violence
Sad legacy of the Holocaust

From Patricia Clough, Bonn, Jan 20

In the ornate villa by Berlin's Wannsee where 40 years ago Nazi leaders agreed on the "final solution to the Jewish problem" German Jews and Gentiles today remembered the Holocaust.

Adolf Eichmann, who masterminded the plan, and Reinhard Heydrich, the security chief who was to carry it out, outlined to four state secretaries and a number of high government officials the arrangements to deport and "deal with" 11 million Jews. The Nazis could not bring themselves to use the words "kill", "gas", or "exterminate".

At his trial in Jerusalem years later Eichmann recalled: "All parties were highly satisfied and happily agreed to participate... The whole business lasted less than an hour and a half."

The ready agreement of the others had meant that he "like Pilate, could wash his hands in innocence".

While Herr Richard von Weizsacker, Chief Burgomaster of West Berlin, Herr Heinz Galinski, the head of the city's Jewish community, and other dignitaries were honouring Eichmann's six million victims, West Berlin police were continuing their search for the bombers who attacked a Jewish restaurant last Friday, killing a baby girl and injuring 24.

They suspect it was the work of a Palestinian group but do not exclude the possibility that it was the work of German neo-Nazis but to mark the anniversary in their own way.

Forty years after the holocaust, Germany still has its Jews and, to an increasingly alarming extent, its neo-Nazis. The Jews — 30,000 in the West and 20,000 in the East — are only a tiny fraction of the two million in Germany before the war.

The security services estimate that the membership of the numerous, mostly tiny neo-Nazi groups rose steeply in 1981 to nearly 20,000. Women increased numbers are turning to terrorism and in 1980 alone 20 people were killed and 220 injured in bomb attacks and murders. Most of their violence, however, is directed against Jewish immigrants rather than Jews.

The number of right-wing extremists is probably no bigger than in other western countries, and probably smaller than in the United States, but neo-Nazism among the people who murdered the Jews and started the second World War inevitably has a different dimension.

The immense weight of the past is also felt intensely by the Jews. Being persecuted as no one was more passionately patriotic than the Jews, they were proverbially more German than the Germans.

Very few now are original German Jews. Most came from Eastern Europe as displaced persons of refugees and stayed either by chance or convenience, using the Government's compensation money to make a new start. Some, however, are German survivors who emigrated to Israel but found they needed their native land and language, no matter how terrible the memories.

Two years ago this German psychological block was broken by the television film *Holocaust*. Many of the more sensitive, intellectual Jews complain of a subconscious anti-Semitism, ignorance and an often appalling insensitivity towards Jewish feelings.

with a hidden entrance under a fixed wash basin.

Police also capture two suspected members of ETA-PM. In a related development it was learnt in Madrid today that the Government had called a halt to the progressive transfer of suspected and convicted Basque extremists to a prison in the Basque country.

The prisoners were being moved in response to a cease-fire declared last February by ETA-PM in the wake of the attempted coup d'état. However, when it was discovered the political-military wing was responsible for the kidnapping of Dr. Iglesias, the authorities considered the truce ended.

The successful operations against ETA-PM coincide with a growing movement among businessmen in the Basque provinces to refuse to pay "revolutionary taxes" demanded by ETA under threat of injury or death.

Señor José María Vizcaino, the president of Adegui, the Basque management association, and the owner of a small manufacturing firm, was quoted in a two-page interview in the liberal *Madrid* daily *Diario 16* today explaining his decision to refuse to submit to ETA extortion.

Carrington going to Jerusalem

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem, Jan 20

Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, is due arrive in Jerusalem within the next few weeks for what diplomatic observers confidently expect will be one of the most controversial official visits to Israel in recent years.

A senior Israeli official told *The Times* today that direct contacts had now begun with the Foreign Office to decide a date for the visit. The main consideration is to avoid a clash with the separate arrivals of President Mitterrand of France and President Mubarak of Egypt, both due here shortly.

The official said talks with Lord Carrington would be wide-ranging, covering bilateral relations, the Middle East peace process and matters related to the European Economic Community.

Other Israeli sources say that the initiative for the visit came from Britain last year during a heated meeting at the United Nations headquarters between Lord Carrington and Mr. Yishak Shamir, the Israeli Foreign Minister. It was decided to pick a date after Britain had relinquished the presidency for the EEC Council of Ministers.

Israeli-British relations are at one of their lowest points, with much of the hostility felt by the Israeli Government and the public at large aimed directly at Lord Carrington himself.

Israeli political sources predict that the visit is likely to provoke anti-British demonstrations from Israelis who have been infuriated by what they regard as Lord Carrington's undisguised support for Palestine Liberation Organization.

DEATH OF WARTIME SPYMASTER

From Our Own Correspondent, Jerusalem, Jan 20

Mr. Leopold Trepper, one of the best known spymasters of the Second World War and leader of the anti-Nazi "Red Orchestra" espionage network, was buried in Jerusalem today. His death, at 77, came eight years after winning a bitter struggle with the authorities in his native Poland to emigrate to Israel.

Mr. Trepper's espionage network was founded in Belgium in the late 1930s and at its peak comprised 290 agents living under different guises in occupied France, Belgium (where it began), The Netherlands and even inside Nazi Germany itself.

Mr. Trepper's connections with the Soviet Union began in 1932 when he arrived in Russia to be active in the Comintern, three years after being expelled from Palestine by the British authorities because of his involvement with the Palestine Communist Party.

After imprisonment and escape during the war, Mr. Trepper was imprisoned on his return to Russia in 1945, apparently under suspicion of having Western contacts. He was released in 1955 after Stalin's death, and has since been a forceful defender of the "Red Orchestra" against a minority of European critics who have variously accused its members of being traitors and of being involved in black marketing.

Obituary, page 12



Line of duty: Polish soldiers with historical caps and fixed bayonets celebrating the anniversary of the liberation of Warsaw in the city's Victory Square. It was the first public ceremony since martial law.

Banks tell Russia: Help Poles pay debts

From Peter Norman, Brussels, Jan 20

West German banks have made it clear that they will grant the Soviet Union new credits on the condition that it shows a willingness to help Poland pay its debts.

Dr. Harald Kühnen, the president of the Association of West German Banks, drew a link between the two issues this evening in a West German television broadcast.

He said the Soviet Union's request for a DM300m (£70m) loan from its German bankers to help finance the Siberian gas pipeline project had to be judged against the background of the Polish crisis. It was important, he added, that Poland should soon pay the \$300m (£150m) or so it still owes to Western banks from 1981 and sign the agreement rescheduling the \$2,400m of private bank debt that fell due last year.

Herr Kühnen's remarks came a day after the German banking consortium met in Frankfurt in the headquarters of the Deutsche Bank to consider the Soviet request. Although the Deutsche Bank has refused all comment on the meeting, Herr Kühnen's remarks confirm that as a group the banks are not prepared to lend Russia more money at this stage.

Poland is not the only issue making German bankers angry with the Soviet Union. The banks, industry and the Government in Bonn all feel badly let down because very few firm orders have been placed by the Soviet Union in Germany for equipment for the pipeline project.

Egypt's President to visit Britain next month

By David Spanier

President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt will pay an official visit to Britain on February 6 and 7, during which he will have talks with Mrs. Margaret Thatcher at Chequers, it was announced yesterday. He will be accompanied by Mrs. Mubarak.

The main purpose of the discussions will be to review the European Community's role in the search for a Middle East settlement. The Egyptian President will also visit Bonn and Paris on his return from talks in Washington on February 3 and 4.

The talks at Chequers are seen as a key part of Middle East consultations after the final approval of European participation in the Sinai multinational force. Israel's confirmation is expected this week. The Foreign Office said yesterday that some arrangements still seemed to be causing some difficulty, but the matter would not doubt be resolved.

Lord Carrington, not the most popular West European politician in Israel, is hoping to pay an official visit to the country in the next few weeks.



Desert triumph: Bernard and Claude Marrean, French brothers in a Renault 20 turbo, are sure of victory today in the Paris to Dakar rally, in which Mark Thatcher, the Prime Minister's son, was lost for six days.

Why Israeli Premier is popular

Begin's attitudes reflect the national mood

From Edward Mortimer, Jerusalem



Mr. Begin: Workers see him as an ally against the Establishment

Jerusalem last week, not to demand an apology, but to assure the Israelis that their place in America's affections could never be threatened by a little tiff like this. Golan was not even mentioned. Strategic cooperation apparently, is to be revived in another form.

There are dissenting voices. Professor Yeshayahu (Isiah) Leibowitz, sometimes called "the Concise of Israel," and now 79 years old, has been giving warnings ever since 1967 that the Jewish state could not incorporate the Arab population of the occupied territories without a fundamental change in its nature. It would become a "state ruled by Jews" rather than a "state of the Jewish people". Instead of running their own affairs (which in his view was the essential

purpose of Zionism) the Jews would devote their energies to "lord[ing] it over another people".

If this situation continues, Professor Leibowitz told me last week in his tiny office in the Hebrew University, it will mean not only the moral degeneration of Israel but a "war to the finish" — not between the state of Israel and two or three million Palestinians but between Israel and the entire Arab world.

"War to the finish," he thinks, will be inevitable if the present situation continues — that is, if Israel does not withdraw from the territories — in two or three years. "Who could bring this about? There is only one man who can do it, and that is the American President — by shutting off the tap." A withdrawal of American support, he has no doubt, would bring about a reversal of the political situation here.

Today he feels that much of what he predicted has already come to pass. Writing last year in *The Jewish Chronicle*, he referred to "disquieting signs of a moral degeneration spreading in the Israel Defence Forces," and made the striking observation that "on Muslim religious festivals all building activity stops in Israel because the workers [meaning the Arabs] rest, on these days hundreds of Jewish restaurants are closed, because the kitchen staff [Arabs] do not go to work. Even operations in some

departments of Jewish hospitals have had to be postponed because the laundry, staffed by Arabs, did not function. In this Jewish state... the normal, daily existence of Jews depends on Arabs."

These views are echoed, with some variations, by Israeli liberal intellectuals who do not share Professor Leibowitz's strong religious commitment. They are appalled by the growing strength of a quite different type of religious fervour, which could perhaps fairly be called "Jewish fundamentalism," a school of thought which not only holds that the whole "land of Israel" belongs to the Jews by divine right, but advocates "the understanding that our state is not like all the Western states, in which all citizens have equal rights regardless of religion, race and sex, but that this is the Jewish state" where only Jews are citizens with voting rights and all those who are not Jews can only be foreigners among us.

This formula, put forward in the journal of the Israeli settlers in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, is of course a mirror image of the more extreme proposals for an Islamic state that one hears put forward among Muslims (including some Muslim inhabitants of those same territories).

It is the ideological superstructure corresponding to a wide range of attitudes and behaviour towards Arabs, at the popular level, some of which, it is fair to say, have been criticized in the settlers' journal itself. For instance, a mother who "amuses" her child, when they pass an Arab on a donkey, with the remark: "Look, there are two donkeys". Arab students are harassed by gangs of right-wing thugs in the universities. Arab shopkeepers are driven out of Jewish neighbourhoods and, if Arabs complain, they are asked why they don't go and live in an Arab country.

Of course, such attitudes do not correspond exactly to official government policy. But the Government does nothing to discourage them, and several Ministers give the strong impression that they personally share them. The whole political atmosphere in the country has shifted far to the right.

The spotlight now switches to the revived "autonomy talks". That Mr. Begin will concede a form of autonomy meaningful enough to do anything other than exacerbate the Palestinian problem seems most unlikely, and it is doubtful whether Mr. Haig can seriously expect it. Probably he hopes, by keeping Israel and Egypt talking to lessen the risk that Israel will either renege on its commitment to pull out of Sinai, or launch a new military adventure to the north. But it is not certain that the "autonomy" will work. Mr. Begin might well decide that threats of violence by the settlers in Yamit are a more serious matter than threats of American displeasure.

Peace talks offer to rebels in Angola

By Fred Bridgland of "The Scotsman"

A number of complex diplomatic initiatives have been launched to try to end the civil war in Angola. They are running in conjunction with the talks for a settlement of the Namibian dispute.

The initiatives include the first offer by Angola's Marxist government to negotiate with UNITA insurgent forces in the nearly seven years of fighting since the former Portuguese colony became independent.

In addition, as reported by *The Times* last week, two Soviet warplanes being held prisoner by UNITA are to be exchanged soon for two American prisoners held by the authorities in Luanda. Twenty-three Portuguese prisoners also held by UNITA forces are to be released after four years in captivity.

But before negotiations begin between the adversaries in Angola the war could become more intense. After a ten-week visit to the United States and seven countries in Black Africa, Western Europe and the Middle East, Dr. Jonas Savimbi, the UNITA leader, is returning home with Soviet-made missiles.

His war funds have been boosted by several million pounds.

In an interview in an African capital earlier this week he confirmed that he had received a message from Luanda inviting him to begin reconciliation negotiations.

"It is true. But there are now indications that the MPLA (the government party) is willing to talk to us. I have received a message from the MPLA. I have replied that UNITA is always ready to talk. I said that for us the main obstacle to reconciliation is the Cuban presence in Angola. (A Cuban force roughly 20,000 strong helped to bring the MPLA to power in 1976 and has remained in the country since then).

Although there has been no official confirmation from Luanda, Dr. Savimbi said contacts would be made through intermediaries for at least the next two months. He was delaying his return to Angola until mid-February in case these were important developments.

He was sending Mr. Jeremias Chitunda, Secretary for Foreign Affairs, to Washington after this week to coordinate indirect contacts with the Angolan authorities.

Diplomatic sources said they hoped that face-to-face meetings would begin by April. If they could establish a mutually agreeable framework negotiations would then move to higher level.

Dr. Saimbi said one of Luanda's conditions for talks was that UNITA ends its relations with South Africa, which entered the 1975-76 Angolan independence war in support of UNITA and another Angolan movement, the FVLA.

As part of the developments on Namibia and Angola, Mr. Paulo Jorge, the Angolan Foreign Minister, last week met Dr. Chester Crocker, the United States Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs. Dr. Crocker had already met Mr. Brand Fourie, Director General of the South African Foreign Affairs Ministry.

Luanda in seeking diplomatic recognition by the United States — withheld since independence — and is offering to cooperate in finding a solution to the Namibian problem.

Dankert to cut EEC red tape

From George Clark, Strasbourg, Jan 20



Mr Piet Dankert: The people's champion

Mr Piet Dankert, the Dutch Socialist, who was elected last night as president of the European Parliament, said today that he intended to cut over the heads of the Council of Ministers and EEC commission to the member-states' governments and parliaments to enlist their aid in obtaining greater legislative powers for the European Parliament.

He said he would include in his personal cabinet people from different parts of the EEC, including someone from Britain, so that he will have direct links with politicians and ministers in the European capitals.

Although MEPs of all parties welcomed Mr Dankert's firm commitment to what he called the struggle to increase Parliament's powers and influence, and to justify its existence to the European electorate, the Conservatives were doubtful about his plan for "direct links".

In his first speech as president, Mr Dankert paid generous tribute to the achievements of Mrs Simone Veil, his predecessor, both in Parliament and on the world stage. He quoted Mr David Wood of *The Times* as saying that she had succeeded in getting the Parliament accepted as a presence if not a power, in international relations.

He won applause for his declaration that before the next direct elections in 1984 the Parliament had to demonstrate to the electors that it could play a positive role in determining the Community's policies.

Mr Dankert is acknowledged by members of most

his arguments, the MEPs rejected the budget, and the struggle began to assert Parliament's right to influence the political aims of the Community, as expressed through expenditure.

Mr Dankert was particularly intent on cutting back the proportion of the budget that went to agriculture, and putting more into social and regional spending as the world economic depression deepened and unemployment figures increased.

Since then he has been a member of the Parliament's conciliation delegation which waits on the Council of Ministers when there is a budget dispute — there has been each year since MEPs were directly elected — and he has earned the reputation of being an astute negotiator.

As an apprenticeship to the job he now takes over, he has been a vice-president (deputy speaker) at the plenary sessions since 1979.

Mr Dankert was born in Steins, in The Netherlands, read history and became a secondary school teacher. From 1960 to 1962, he was chairman of the Young Socialists in his country and excelled in the Atlantic Young Political Leaders' Association. From 1963 to 1971, he was deputy, then chief international secretary of the Dutch Labour Party, becoming a member of the Bureau of the Socialist International and of the liaison office of the EEC's Socialist and Social Democratic parties.

From 1968 to 1981 he was an elected member of the Dutch Parliament.

Zimbabwe white exodus slackens

From Stephen Taylor, Salisbury, Jan 20

There is some cheer for the Zimbabwe Government in the latest emigration statistics which show a sharp drop in the number of skilled whites leaving the country. The figure of 1,005 for November was the lowest for any month since before independence and was down by almost half on October.

However, the overall number of emigrants for the first 11 months of the year went up to 18,747 more than have left in any full year.

While the November figure suggests that perhaps the departure rate has bottomed out, sources gave a warning against over-optimism, pointing out that prospective emigrants with children at school might have delayed their departure until the end of the school year in December.

November also brought good news in the shape of the number of skilled immigrants to the country. Five departing engineers were replaced by 19 arriving and although three doctors left eight others arrived. There was a substantial gain in teachers but a net loss among mechanical workers.

The departure of Zimbabweans with skills, mainly to South Africa but also to Australia, remains one of the country's most pressing problems. Their replacement by expatriates, many on contracts, can only be a temporary measure.

Ministers cleared of Bihar blindings

From Kuldip Nayar, Delhi, Jan 20

The Central Bureau of Investigation has absolved the Bihar Government of complicity or negligence in the blinding of 32 people awaiting trial by the state police. However, the Deputy Inspector-General of Police and the district magistrate in Bhagalpur are found to have had prior knowledge of the practice of blindings and not acting to prevent it.

The Supreme Court of India is hearing a case in which as many as 32 people were said to have been blinded between July and November, 1980, and that Mr Jagannath Mishra, the Chief Minister of Bihar, did not act to stop the blindings even when he was allegedly told about them in September 1980.

The Supreme Court had requested the central Government to find out how far the state was involved in the incidents.

In its report, the Central Bureau of Investigation says the blindings were only an instance of isolated crime, without any conspiracy.

The blindings had rocked India and the debate has continued since. The bureau findings will have wide repercussions because it tries to shift the blame away from the Chief Minister and top state officials. Both the opposition and the press have been pressing Mrs Indira Gandhi, the Prime Minister, to dismiss the Bihar government for refraining from action when it had "prior knowledge" of the blindings.

The Bihar CID had registered 24 cases against the

police in December, 1980. The bureau says that there is evidence for criminal prosecution in 10 of them. In nine cases there was not enough evidence and hence it recommended only departmental action. In the remaining five cases no one was found responsible.

Ten people were killed and at least 35 injured in the states of West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Kerala and Tamil Nadu after one-day strikes throughout the country yesterday to protest against low wages and repressive measures of the central Government.

Official sources said that six of the deaths were in clashes between supporters and opponents of the strike and the rest were killed when the police opened fire.

More than 10,000 arrests were made in different states in the last two days. Among them are 10 MPs.

The strike was almost total in the communist-run state of West Bengal and Tripura. An official release said that in key economic sectors like petroleum, fertilizers, steel, telecommunications and transport were by and large, normal everywhere, but the functioning of banks and insurance offices were disrupted.

No daily newspaper, except for the Congress (I) Party's *National Herald* came out in Delhi. The flow of information was inadequate since the two main news agencies, Press Trust of India and the United News of India, were on strike.

Moonshine enjoys a timely success

From Christopher Thomas, New York, Jan 20

A company in North Caldwell, New Jersey, is reporting brisk sales of a one-handed clock with a cycle of 24 hours, 50 minutes and 30 seconds, which supposedly helps to keep track of body rhythms.

It is geared to the passage of the moon which, if the company's salesmen are to be believed, governs a person's state of mind. Mr Louis Schelling, the inventor, said: "With the knowledge that the moon's effect is maximum at noon today you might schedule lunch with an important client."

He contends that the moon's cycle matches the human body's circadian rhythm.

His claims, however, have brought a swift response from Mr Wilse Webb, a psychologist at University of Florida's sleep research centre and one of the country's leading authorities on the subject. He said the lunar cycle was 15 to 20 minutes shorter than the average person's circadian cycle and the evidence that the moon influenced human behaviour was "very, very weak".

Mr Schelling claims that he is selling the clock to colleges, doctors, astronomers and people interested in astrology. But in an unguarded moment he confessed: "I Don't believe in it myself."

Sihanouk aid plea to China

From David Bonavia, Peking, Jan 20

Prince Norodom Sihanouk, the deposed Cambodian leader, says he will again serve as head of state if China can help him and his supporters and other resistance groups to drive out the Vietnamese occupation forces.

Last year Prince Sihanouk declared his irreversible retirement from politics. However, he said in an interview here that China was his best friend, and he would do whatever China wanted. He said he knew the Khmer Rouge did not want him to lead a coalition consisting of themselves, his supporters and the anti-communist nationalist forces led by Mr Son Sann, a former Prime Minister.

Accepting that his future role will have to be determined by outside forces, Prince Sihanouk said: "That is all right by me."

The flamboyant former ruler who helped the North Vietnamese in their war against South Vietnam and the United States, said he now had only a few hundred armed followers, but could have many thousands if China would supply arms, food and medicine.

Asked why he formerly allowed eastern Cambodia to be used as a transit route and sanctuary for the North Vietnamese and the Vietcong, he said that in the 1960s he had no other option.

Fighting grows: A wave of refugees crossed the Cambodian border into Thailand last night after the third day of intensified fighting between Vietnamese-led forces and the Khmer Rouge (David Watts writes from Bangkok).

The fighting is the latest manifestation of the new Vietnamese policy of using forces of main force strength to attack Khmer Rouge strongholds and to turn over as much of the fighting as possible to troops of the Vietnamese-backed Government.

According to the Thai Supreme Command, about 3,000 refugees have fled into Thailand. They are expected to return to Cambodia as soon as the fighting dies down.

The Thais are afraid that this latest outbreak of heavy fighting, which follows a heavy attack on a key Khmer Rouge supply base, could spill across the border.

Japanese to ban sex tours

From Peter Hazelhurst, Tokyo, Jan 20

The Japanese Government is drawing up legislation to prevent Japanese men from travelling to the developing nations of Asia in large groups on organized sex tours.

A draft Bill to penalize travel agents who organize group sex tours was first suggested last year after many politicians said the practice was tarnishing Japan's reputation in North-East and South-East Asia.

A champion of the proposed legislation, Miss Takako Doi, a Socialist MP, told Parliament recently that the "sex tours cast great shame over Japan's image. There is no other country whose men travel abroad in organized groups to purchase women in groups". There have also been protests from women's rights organizations in the Philippines and South Korea in recent months.

The proposed ban on sex tours is expected to be introduced by the Ministry of Transport in the form of a Bill which will revise the regulations under which travel agents obtain their licences. Travel agents will lose their licences if they organize group tours which offer "services" in violation of the laws of foreign countries.

The proposed steps against disreputable travel agents were announced in the wake of another recent scandal over the behaviour of Japanese businessmen who are posted abroad. Japan's large trading houses are up in arms because Mr Michio Watanabe, Japan's Minister of Finance, recently alleged that businessmen spoil the country's image by ostentatiously enjoying themselves abroad.

"Japanese businessmen never contribute towards charities and churches when they are abroad. They engage in drunken revelry night after night in night clubs, creating a bad impression."

In any event, Japan's image has been tarnished in recent years by a spate of organized sex tours to South Korea, Thailand, the Philippines and other countries.

Reputable travel agents who oppose the practice estimate that as many as 1.5 million Japanese men travel in all-male groups to Korea and South-East Asia every year after paying a package price for their fare, hotel rooms, cabaret shows, and the promise of sex.



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Unesco tries to get cash for Third World media

From Stephen Downer, Mexico City, Jan 20

Third World delegates attending the Unesco conference on the International Programme for the Development of Communication in Acapulco have accused Western nations of controlling Third World news. Mr Christopher Nacimiento, of Guyana, claimed yesterday, at the first working day of the conference, that the plight of the world's poorest was "not as portrayed by the media monopoly of the North".

The seven day conference, inaugurated by President José Lopez Portillo of Mexico, on Monday, is seeking ways of funding improved mass communications in the poor countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America.

It is the second conference organized by the United Nations body which is trying to satisfy Third World re-

quests for \$73m (£38m). So far only \$5m (£2.6m) has been promised. The United States and some other industrialized countries have refused to give money to the scheme, although they have said they will fund some Third World communications programmes directly.

Many Western publishers and editors believe that the money may be used to establish government media monopolies and to control the information flowing in and out of a country.

Mr Charles Scripps, president of the Inter-American Press Association and the head of the Scripps newspaper chain, said his association did not oppose the creation of new news outlets. But he thought they might be used to restrict the work of journalists.

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Main Sizewell inquiry starts next January

ENERGY

The main hearing of the public inquiry into the application for the Central Electricity Generating Board to build a pressurized water reactor at Sizewell in Suffolk, will begin early in January 1983. Mr Nigel Lawson, Secretary of State for Energy, announced in a statement. Sir Frank Layfield QC has already been appointed as inspector to the inquiry.

Mr Lawson said he wished the public and their representatives to have adequate opportunity to study the extensive information and documentation which would be provided. He was proposing the January 1983 date following recent consultations with those on whom the burden of preparing the principal documentation rested. The chairman of the CEGB had told him that the board expected to publish their pre-construction safety report at the end of April.

Dr Walter Marshall, as chairman of the PWR Task Force, will continue to coordinate the efforts of all the parties involved in the preparation of the inquiry, he said, and will keep me informed of progress. The CEGB also intend to issue at the end of April a full statement in support of their application.

The Nuclear Installations Inspectorate of the Health and

Safety Executive have told me that they expect to publish a report on safety issues by the end of June.

There will therefore be an extended period for the study of both the CEGB documentation and the NII report.

Earlier preliminary hearings will be held by the inspector at which those parties who wish to put their views before him on the general arrangements for the conduct of the inquiry and the scope of the evidence can do so. It is a time well before the main inquiry begins.

The main hearing (and at least one of the preliminary hearings) will take place in Suffolk. I hope that arrangements can be made for the main hearing to be held within easy reach of the Sizewell site, and that a statement on this will be made soon.

The Government are convinced that nuclear power has an increasingly important role to play in electricity generation in Britain. Nevertheless, any specific proposal has to be judged on its own merits. The arrangements for the Sizewell inquiry which I have just described will ensure that the CEGB's application is thoroughly and properly examined.

Mr Marilyn Rees, chief opposition spokesman on energy (Leeds, South, Lab) said that American experience with the pressurized water reactor was a cause for

concern and ought to be carefully considered during the inquiry.

Are cost factors (the went on) to be included in the inquiry, including environmental costs? Does the Secretary of State accept that because of the nature of nuclear power with its horrific military antecedents and hazards, intangible and intangible costs, that the standards set should be far higher than for any other industry?

Mr Lawson Cost factors, including environmental costs, will be taken into account in the inquiry. My predecessor (Mr David Howell) made it clear that the three main issues covered by the inquiry would be safety, environmental and economic.

Mr Rees linked, inappropriately in my view, the military nuclear question with nuclear power. These are separate issues.

(Labour interruptions) It is significant that much of the early impetus behind the desire to have a peaceful nuclear power programme was the desire of those who had been involved in earlier wartime nuclear matters, to beat swords into ploughshares.

It is vitally important that our own very high standards of safety are fully satisfied. That is one of the main matters which will be at issue in the inquiry.



Rees: Highest standards

place he will publish all the information available to him — some of which was available to me as Secretary of State for Energy — including serious doubts about the inherent safety of the PWR design?

He asked if the inquiry would be broad enough to allow people to argue that the money involved would be better spent on insulating homes, which create jobs, save lives and save more energy than the PWR which he doubted would work.



Benn: Doubts if PWR will work

Mr Lawson: There will be a massive amount of documentation available — a greater amount than has ever been provided before.

All the other matters Mr Benn referred to will be part of the subject matter of the inquiry. Mr Arthur Lewis (Newham, North-West, Lab): Will the question of danger from terrorism be covered by the inquiry?

Priority for domestic rate reform

ENVIRONMENT

The Government's prime concern at present was to deal with alternatives or reform of domestic rates, said Mr Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, said during questions. In that context he would have to consider the implications for commercial and industrial rates.

Mr Jocelyn Cadbury (Birmingham, Northfield, C) had asked Mr Heseltine when he expected to complete consultations arising from his green paper on local government finance.

Mr Heseltine: I have been invited by March 31. On Monday, January 18, 10 representatives have been received advocating a variety of solutions. Mr Cadbury: Before he completes his consultations, he should take account that the burden on ratepayers has been greatly exacerbated by the present two-tier system of local government which in effect means two layers of councils competing in spending the ratepayers' money.

The daunting task the Government faces in reforming the rating system would be made easier if the upper level of local government were abolished, we returned to the previous unitary system.

Mr Heseltine: I know there are pressures to look at the structure of parts of local government. These pressures would be reduced if some of the councils were less free with their spending policies. But the Government's immediate priority in this matter is to deal with the financial aspects centred on the green paper.

Mr Sydney Chapman (Barnet, Chipping Barnet, C): Since domestic rates bring in only 16 per cent of local authority revenue and domestic rating is an inherently unfair tax, its replacement by a tax or taxes collected nationally would not be detrimental to local government freedom because local govern-

ment has never ever had any real financial freedom.

Mr Heseltine: That is a fairly common assertion but it is not in merit in the underlying argument behind what he says. I would now ask him to bear with me until we get to the end of the consultation period before he expects me to reach conclusions.

Mr John Sever (Birmingham, Ladywood, C): Many of the representations received concerning local government finance boil down to the simple fact that the Government is starving local government of finance and not giving it sufficient funds to enable it to carry out its duties.

Mr Heseltine: It is difficult in the great pressure of the moment to think that the first investigation into alternatives of local government came when reverse the Government's policies. Mr John Ward (Poole, C): He should remember the problems of the commercial and industrial ratepayers also mentioned briefly in the green paper.

Mr Heseltine: I hope he will not misunderstand the difficulty of avoiding problems to all ratepayers. I am aware that great deal of concern is now being expressed by the commercial and industrial ratepayers who find themselves paying ever increasing rates.

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less he should withdraw immediately the Opposition pledge to abolish the present borough council.

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It is imperative that local authorities give every possible attention to making full use of the substantial sums represented by way of additional to that allocation from capital receipts — housing and non-housing receipts.

Mr John Heddle (Lichfield and Tamworth, C): The best way to restore hope to the hundreds of thousands of people waiting for council houses is for the Labour Party to withdraw its blind, dogmatic objections to the Government's short-term proposals and so restore to those in need the right to rent their own homes.

Mr Stanley: He is right. If Mr Kaufman had not made the particular commitment he has done on behalf of the Labour Party on short-term there would be many thousands of additional rented opportunities available now.

Mr Neil Macfarlane, Minister for Sport, is to make a two-day visit to Madrid next month to discuss arrangements to combat hooliganism during the World Cup football matches.

Mr Macfarlane said that he met the chairmen and secretaries of the football associations of England, Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales on December 1 to discuss the general problems of hooliganism abroad by British football supporters, and the possibility of particular hooliganism in Spain during the World Cup series.

Mr Dennis Canavan (West Suffolk, Lab): What steps are being taken to ensure that football fans get a fair allocation of tickets without being exploited by unscrupulous ticket touts and travel agents? What steps are being taken to warn all football fans in advance to be on their best behaviour in Spain, especially in view of the recent hooliganism in the part of English football fans abroad?

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Mr Macfarlane: I am deeply concerned about some of the problems. My officials are in the Spanish representatives. One of my officials chairs a working party which is composed of representatives of the Football Association, the Foreign Office and Supporters World Travel. All these matters are under discussion. I will be visiting Madrid on February 4 and 5 to discuss them.

Earlier, Mr Alan Clark (Plymouth, Sutton, C) asked what representations had been received from the national sporting bodies about that extraordinary episode last month when Mr Macfarlane refused to allow the Secretary of the Football Association into dropping the bulldog logo of the World Cup emblem on the grounds that the Spanish might find it provocative. The responsibilities of the Minister of Sport were even under the most generous interpretation some of the most amorphous and excessive zeal in defending foreign sensibilities was not among them.

Mr Macfarlane: I have had no representation from the Football Association.

Mr Neil Macfarlane, Minister for Sport, said during questions that he had received a letter from a young man, a sentence of more than four months to not more than 18 months would be detained in a youth custody centre. That guaranteed a training regime and it applied to a wider effective sentence band than the present Borsal sentence.

Changes to the supervision of offenders would mean additional financial burdens on local authorities. These provisions would be brought into effect only when the additional resources were available. But some of the provisions would be in force as soon as possible so that local authorities can give effect to these new orders.

The Bill also provided for the extension of community service orders to 16 year-olds. They would be subject to the conditions that already applied to offenders aged 17 and over, except that there would be a maximum of 120 hours instead of 240 hours.

Community service had already proved its worth to the older group. The number of orders made had continued to rise since its introduction and the figures for 1980 showed a proportional increase in the use of community service.

There would be careful preparation before this extension of community service was introduced and he would have to be satisfied that the arrangements were adequate.

There were at present rather complex provisions which enabled parents or guardians to be ordered to pay fines, compensation or costs awarded against juveniles. The Bill would make a greater contribution.

The changes made to these provisions were therefore designed to strengthen and clarify the arrangements. It was necessary to make sure that fines, compensation or costs should be paid by parents or guardians unless in all the circumstances it was thought it would be unreasonable to make them pay. The parents

had a right to be heard and to appeal against the order.

There was also a useful power under which parents or guardians could be bound over for up to three years to take proper care of a child and exercise proper care over him. If they were to exercise an undertaking of that kind, the recognition could be set at a maximum of £500, an increase on the previous maximum of £200.

The changes in sentence structure were designed to ensure that all violent and other dangerous offenders could receive custodial and, if necessary, long sentences. He shared the concern of those who had expressed at the level of crime in our society.

This is something we cannot and must not tolerate (he said). The maximum sentences already provided by law for crimes of violence are very severe indeed.

As regards the type of sentence to be selected by the courts, I note that the Lord Chief Justice has made it clear that in all but wholly exceptional circumstances those who commit rape must expect an immediate custodial sentence. It is right that society should mark its horror of violent crime in this way.

At the same time the courts would be offered a more flexible range of sentences for use where justice required. It would not demand the offender went into custody. When the necessary preparatory work had been completed, new powers would enable the courts themselves in cases where sentences of immediate imprisonment of between six months and three years and also abolished the indeterminate sentence of Borsal training. It replaced them with a more flexible structure of detention orders, whose length was within statutory limits to be determined by the courts. The policy was to allow the courts to impose a custodial sentence on a young offender unless it was found that no other sentence dealing with him was appropriate.

By broadening and strengthening existing non-custodial powers, the Bill would allow the courts to avoid a custodial sentence except where one was necessary.

It proposed in such a case that the court would be able to impose a sentence of no more than three weeks. This gave effect to the Government's policy that young people should only be sent to custody if it was unavoidable and then for as short a time as possible.

The new detention centre order provided for a minimum of three weeks. In place of Borsal and imprisonment for the under-21s, clause 4 provided the courts with the power to impose a sentence of youth custody for the precise period over four months which they considered necessary. This was a new sentence for the courts, not the executive, to decide how long a person should be deprived of his liberty.

Under the Bill the young offender would be sent to a sentence of more than four months to not more than 18 months would be detained in a youth custody centre. That guaranteed a training regime and it applied to a wider effective sentence band than the present Borsal sentence.

Whitelaw supports prison sentences for rape

JUSTICE

There was a need for more effective and flexible sentencing powers in dealing with the diversity of offenders who came before them. In its election manifesto, it recognized the need for more flexible and effective sentencing powers in dealing with the diversity of offenders who came before them.

The Bill's primary purpose was to provide the courts with more flexible and effective powers for dealing with the diversity of offenders who came before them. In its election manifesto, it recognized the need for more flexible and effective sentencing powers in dealing with the diversity of offenders who came before them.

The Bill abolished imprisonment for offenders under 21 and with a large number of restrictions which section 3 of the Criminal Justice Act 1961 placed on the passing of sentences of between six months and three years and also abolished the indeterminate sentence of Borsal training. It replaced them with a more flexible structure of detention orders, whose length was within statutory limits to be determined by the courts. The policy was to allow the courts to impose a custodial sentence on a young offender unless it was found that no other sentence dealing with him was appropriate.

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EEC studying aid plea

WEATHER

The European Commission were giving urgent attention to the claim by the British Government for emergency aid following the recent water damage in Wales and it was hoped this aid would soon be announced, Mr Nicholas Edwards, Secretary of State for Wales, said during a statement on the situation.

He told Mr Raymond Powell (Ogmore, Lab) who had requested that claim or aid had been made promptly to the Commission by the Government was urgently assessing the damage.

It is hoped (he said) that the Commission will make an early announcement and that aid will be forthcoming from that source.

Consumption of water in the Ogmore area was normally 400,000 gallons a day, but in the last few days it had been running at 1,000,000 gallons a day because of burst pipes and interruptions to the water supply.

The Welsh Water Authority had been wise to warn of possible difficulties due to lost water from burst pipes. The situation was under control, the water was fit to drink, and although there were some areas where the water supply had not yet been reconnected, they were relatively few in number and were quickly being dealt with.

Mr Edwards told Mr Powell, who had said that loss of the entire water supply in days had been threatened and that water was gushing out of burst pipes faster than it could be replaced that it was greatly exaggerating the situation.

In his statement, he said the water supply situation generally was under control and the vast majority of consumers were being supplied with properly treated water at normal pressures. The water resources were entirely adequate, but there were local problems due to leaks in distribution systems.

In parts of Wales still without water, every effort was being made by the Welsh Water Authority to reconnect the areas affected.

There would obviously be appreciable financial consequences of the emergency (he said) in particular for the local authorities who had the primary responsibility for dealing with it, and for the farmers, it was far too early to make a realistic assessment of the consequences.

We shall continue to assess the situation as information about the costs incurred by all concerned becomes firmer.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Questions: Home Office; Prime Minister

BOOKS

Victoria's eldest child — a princess whom the Germans thought an English spy

The Other Victoria
The Princess Royal and the Great Game of Europe
By Andrew Sinclair

(Weidenfeld & Nicholson, £10)

"My idea of a liberal", replied the Crown Princess of Prussia when her mother had accused her of submitting to the contemporary equivalent of Radical Chic, is simply a commonsense view of things, and a wish to be fair, and tolerant and charitable, and to try to improve at all times that which is improving; in fact to try to raise each branch of existence into something as good as it can be made, not to change and destroy things because they are old and traditional, nor to preserve what is no longer useful merely because it is old.

It is, as you might expect, an excellent definition. Nearly a decade has passed since Daphne Bennett's splendid and moving *Vicky*, the first life of its subject for many years, reminded us that the eldest child of Victoria and Albert is one of the most articulate, intelligent and sympathetic women the British Royal Family has ever produced.

That *Vicky* remains comparatively little known here even today can only be because she left England to marry Prince Frederick William of Prussia at the age of 15 and spent most of the rest of her life in Berlin. That she is not very well known there, either, is because she was a woman, a reformer and an English. These grave disadvantages are the subject of Andrew Sinclair's lively new book which retells a tale of courage, humour and aspirations pitifully dashed, and does it well, even if the most of *Sylvie (Born to be Queen)* Krin does creep in from time to time.

No Queen of Prussia was ever loved before or after Louise (1776-1810), the brave and dumpy madonna of Neoclassicism who had Napoleon at Tilsit like the heroine of *Emma*. Dying two years later, Louise passed at once into necessary sainthood, from delectable nursery picture-books in the style of Kate Greenaway, and Walter Crane, to the chaste biscuit porcelain figures still produced today.

Posterity, which has challenged Bismarck's assumptions on virtually everything else, is content to accept his contemptuous snorts at *Die*



Empress Frederick in 1900, the year before her death

Engländerin, and "The Englishwoman" she has remained; even the exhaustive search conducted for the historic soul of Prussia in Berlin last year, turned whenever possible from the gun and the drum to the less familiar but genuine tradition of enlightenment, tolerance and social reform, could pass from the ideals of 1848 to the rise of Social Democracy without so much as a hiccup of inquiry or acknowledgment to *Vicky* and Fritz. She was foreign; she had no right to a view.

She believed, with both her parents, that the British Constitution was the best and there is no doubt that Victoria and Albert agreed to the marriage of a loved child so early in order to further their vision of Germany allied to England and united in the causes of constitutional monarchy, parliamentary democracy, social and industrial progress, by protestant Prussia. It was a long-term strategy, not a plot, and if, as Wolfgang Prince of Hesse implies in a

firm but friendly disclaimer at the head of *The Other Victoria*, it was Sinclair's intention to present the marriage "as an extraordinary event whose main purpose was to place a political agent and spy at the heart of the Prussian court," then he has failed, for the evidence is simply not there, nor was the Queen of England so cross.

But there is no reason to think that once he familiarized himself with new territory, the novelist, historian of Prohibition, biographer of (among others) President Harding, J. Pierpont Morgan, Dylan Thomas and John Ford, ever intended to go so far. Rather, he is content to show how Bismarck chose to believe in such an "English" plot and that what really happened was the vigorous survival of informal royal diplomacy into the age of the professionals: the affectionate kinship of mother and daughter, grandmother and grandson, could still temper the violence of Palmerston, Napoleon III, or Bismarck

himself, who *Vicky* described to her mother as the "most mischievous and dangerous person alive".

The Times had foreseen conflicting areas of interest for the young girl even before betrothal was confirmed in 1856, and indeed there were three: England, Prussia, family. In the early years she wrote brightly of "our dear troops" when the Prussians marched off to take Schleswig-Holstein from the King of Denmark, although she had earlier helped to effect the marriage of his daughter to her brother the Prince of Wales, in a move designed to ease the Prussian Berlin or fortify London the way to provide what they had all been seeking for sometime: Somebody nice for Bessie.

By the time of *Beloved Mama*, wearied by two decades of suspicion and conspiracy, indeed, magisterial treatment which has perhaps only been equalled once, and in different terms — by Robert Wohl's classic *Pearl Harbor*, warning and deciphering, which appeared in 1962.

Professor Prange unfortunately died in 1980, and the 3500 pages of his uncompleted work have been trimmed into its present shape by two of his former students, its special quality

Bomb-burst into the Pacific: How the Japanese surprised Pearl Harbor

At Dawn We Slept
The untold story of Pearl Harbor
By Gordon W. Prange

(Michael Joseph, £14.95)

It is not surprising that this remarkable volume was sold out on the first day of its publication in New York. Not merely because it is the characteristic Big American Book (81 chapters, 875 pages, 37 years of research) or because it deals with the Big American Subject — for to a degree little understood in this country, Pearl Harbor is still an open wound in the American psyche. The reason must rather be a perception that in spite of the millions of words and the bitter controversies generated by a disaster on 7 December 1941, indeed, magisterial treatment which has perhaps only been equalled once, and in different terms — by Robert Wohl's classic *Pearl Harbor*, warning and deciphering, which appeared in 1962.

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derives from his extraordinary grasp of the Japanese mind. For a number of years after the war he was Chief of the Historical Section in Japan, under General MacArthur, and was thus able to interview virtually every surviving Japanese officer who was concerned with the planning or the execution of the assault. Many of these contacts, particularly with some of the key personalities, ripened into confident friendship. The late Professor Prange's posthumous *Old Friends, New Enemies: The Royal Navy and the Imperial Japanese Navy*, which was published last year, was notable for its penetration of the Japanese mentality, but it is evident that during half a lifetime Professor Prange ranged more widely and probed more persistently.

It is particularly sad that Prange died in May 1980, for during the last 18 months a mass of contemporary documents has been declassified and lodged in the National Archives in Washington. But my own work, latterly, has involved an intensive study of the breaking of the Japanese codes and ciphers, and the value of the intelligence derived from this source, and I believe it is fair to say that nothing in the thousands of papers recently

released substantially modifies the Professor's conclusions. One can criticize specific points — he is quite wrong, for example, in saying that in 1941 the Americans supplied us with no fewer than three replicas of the Japanese "Purple" enciphering machine — but the broad sweep of his argument is indisputable.

He shatters the proposition, still sustained by political prejudice, that what happened at Pearl Harbor was the result of a Rooseveltian "conspiracy". He demonstrates in minute detail how Admiral Yamamoto's plan for a surprise attack was never a crucial part of the great Japanese offensive scheme, but was only accepted by the Naval Staff in Tokyo reluctantly and at the last minute. With exemplary evidence he reveals that the Americans had long been aware of the threat, but simply dismissed the notion as implausible.

Such a summary does no justice to the wealth of material — by way of documents and oral testimony — which buttresses Prange's assessment. In particular, it is impossible to describe briefly his account of the high

professionalism and consistent attention to detail with which the Japanese prepared their bomb-burst into the Pacific. In technique (torpedo-quality, night-fighting efficiency, pilot-experience) and in the amplitude of their strategic conceptions they were, for a few brief months, on a pinnacle. How infinitely creditable to the Americans, therefore, that by the following summer, in the battle of Midway, Japan lost not only the core of its navy but also a war which, as Professor Prange makes clear, the hard men in Tokyo had intentionally launched.

That there was much miscalculation and myopia in Washington — however venial — and grave misjudgment by the commanders at Pearl Harbor, Admiral Kimmel and General Short, but those based on prejudice or self-justification. But with our own record over Singapore, who are we to question Prange's final conclusion: "The stain of error permeates the entire American fabric of Pearl Harbor from the President down to the Fourteenth Naval District and the Hawaiian Department. There are no Pearl Harbor scapegoats."

Ronald Lewin

Losing one's innocence with Simone

Simone de Beauvoir
A Life of Freedom
By Carol Ascher

(Harvester Press, £9.95)

For a woman of my age and inclinations, approaching the Margaret Drabble middle ground of life, Simone de Beauvoir's name (like Edith Piaf, ironically enough) which conjures vistas of nostalgia, coffee bars with rubber plants; long Oxford conversations with friends dressed for existentialism in black polo-neck jerseys; intellectual musings on life and love and death. And when in the mid-sixties I went to join *The Guardian*, the chief reporter pressed into my hand a battered copy of *The Second Sex*, imagining that it might come in useful. Most astute.

Because by this time, especially on *The Guardian*, where the Housebound Housewives were emerging in full force, de Beauvoirization was everywhere apparent. In the States it penetrated even farther. *Penetrated*? Oh yes, touche. One finds that life is full of such complexities and pit-

falls, the basic problem being that once one is de Beauvoirized one's innocence is lost, and things are not the same again.

Carol Ascher, the American writer of this interesting, maddening new study of de Beauvoir, is a definite lost innocent: a one-time lecturer in Co-ordinated Women's Studies (can they really mean it?) at Sarah Lawrence College and the author of what is described as "a long novel" called *Respirations*. There, she is clearly in the thick of it.

The de Beauvoir story is a strange and an impressive one. I have always thought it should be turned into an opera, if one ever found an intellectual enough librettist. Carol Ascher does a very conscientious job in tracing, through an analysis of the de Beauvoir memoirs, her extraordinary progress from a strictly Catholic girlhood to become the very symbol of emancipated women. Though possibly the signs were there already in her childhood, said her startled mother, "if you raise as much as a finger to Simone, she turns purple in the face".

Ms Ascher is eminently thoughtful in her commentary, often illuminating the everyday detail; for instance she reminds one that Simone and Jean-Paul Sartre, when they were young, at the Sorbonne and just after, spent a lot of time in cafes not just because they liked the free and easy café ambience but because the rooms they lodged in at the time were so damn perishing. She also faces bravely the bysund contradictions in de Beauvoir's life and writings, not least the way the champion of women's independence is so loath to be alone and so terrified by death.

Such fascinating subject-matter rises above most things. And just as well, for Ms Ascher does a very admirably thorough and in many ways quite sensitive, clearly exemplifies some of the worst effects of de Beauvoirization on literary endeavour. Much of the time its style is Women's Liberation turgid (a tendency de Beauvoir herself was immune to), by which I mean that special tone of earnest self-indulgence, emotional

heavy weather, so common among writers of the books, often illuminating the everyday detail; for instance she reminds one that Simone and Jean-Paul Sartre, when they were young, at the Sorbonne and just after, spent a lot of time in cafes not just because they liked the free and easy café ambience but because the rooms they lodged in at the time were so damn perishing. She also faces bravely the bysund contradictions in de Beauvoir's life and writings, not least the way the champion of women's independence is so loath to be alone and so terrified by death.

Dear Simone de Beauvoir, writes the author in a (thankfully) undelivered letter to her subject which forms her rather bizarre central chapter: *I am in the midst of writing my book about your ideas, and I have been badly troubled by you — by your book on one — over the past weeks. Often in the morning I go to my desk, I feel resentful, begrudging, sick of the lack of reciprocity between us... I want to work out my very difficult and confused feelings towards you.*

Dear Carol Ascher, I think I must admit to a few complex feelings too.

Fiona MacCarthy

Eastern transports to the truth: Gurus, holy vibes, and quick rupees

The Shortest Journey
By Philippa Pullar

(Hamish Hamilton, £9.95)

Sensing that there must be more to a girl's life than drugs, drink and instant lovers (one the conductor of her last bus home to Putney), the author went three times to India to seek the truth from recommended holy men and, not altogether incidentally, to come back with a book. This is the book. From what follows here, it may not seem so funny, mind-boggling and hugely readable, but I assure you:

The dedication says, "For Roy". Roy did the recommending, having had three years of the holy men, and returned a psychological mess, apt to rust around naked in respectable hotels, shouting general insults; just the companion, Philippa naturally saw, for her travels. The relationship, like many, is left vague.



the long journeys, to the shrine sites, often grotty, of the sadhus and sages: Hampi, Puttaparthi, Dharmavaram, Adoni, Mahabalipuram, Tiruvannamalai. I hope I have it right, and those are the sites, not the sages. An index and glossary would have eased my confusion. Was Hampi a sage, not a site? Possibly the one who materialized bottles of Scotch from the air, also hair brushes and a large porcelain dish? It was per-

haps Adoni who exuded from his fingertips the healing substance, Amrit... If that isn't the place where Swami Parvathikar, unless I mean Neelakantha Lathaji, departed from his body in an aerial trance, leaving a shining blue light to mark the spot.

Intermittent shorter journeys were less exotic in destination. Neasden, where guru Dadaji, stopping off on a holy work tour, was too interested in Philippa until he found she was writing a book, but then took to her, confiding the secret of what God smelt of. Dartmoor, to sit at the feet of the visiting Sai Baba, who advocated meditation through copulation, bought a yacht for conveniently transporting his disciples, but transported himself by white Jaguar.

He differed in this from the only truly hooked on Her Holiness Mataji Nirmla Devi, who drove a white Mercedes, and, in Finchley, not only allowed Philippa to sit at, but to wash her feet, in

a mandatory mixture of flour, honey, ghee, yoghurt and milk. But Roy was present, sulking rudely when told by Her Holiness to sleep, for salvation, with seven names and seven chills in the matrix, leaving a shining blue light to mark the spot.

But vibrations she had received, whatever the cause, she too went off Mataji Nirmla Devi in the end, concluding that "the shortest journey" of the title, was a voyage of discovery into herself. There was after all, says the book's closing sentence, "no need to go anywhere".

Basil Boothroyd

Mailer's friend wasted by time

In the Belly of the Beast
Letters from Prison
By Jack Henry Abbott

Introduction by Norman Mailer

(Hutchinson, £6.95)

Norman Mailer tells us that as letters began to flow in from his prisoner friend a few years ago, he would read them with a gasp, exclaiming, "Yes, he's right. My God, yes, it's true!" This reader occasionally found himself saying something similar; much more frequently there escaped a despairing groan.

Abbott's non-notorious story — almost continuous imprisonment since the age of twelve, release to a chorus of literary praise and his current trial — has been held up by conservatives as a classic instance of the credulous naïveté of liberal intellectuals. But the letters should stand as a potent rebuke to them as well: decades of imprisonment are no better answer. Unless I am under grave misapprehensions about the American prison system, it is not designed to turn out unworried, bitter Marxists. This is the self-portrait revealed.

He has the gift of a telling phrase which captures his nightmare. He has been "tuned to steel by the smelter of endless time in confinement"; it is not



Jack Henry Abbott in chains, New Orleans, 1981

criminal education — is the reason why men walk out of prison and commit further crimes.

The prose swoops between maturity forged by dreadful experience and the childish petulance of a man brought up in a system which has worked to destroy most moral choices. There is a detailed passage of instruction on why and how you should stab a man who has insulted you. Abbott's voracious reading has brought him to embrace revolutionary violence, Cuba, and Russia. The saddest words in the book appear in the chapter heading "Foreign Affairs". Solzhenitsyn's *First Circle* revealed to him "how lenient the Soviet Union was to its prisoners."

The system which imprisoned Abbott and men like him leaves them with little but their rage. He makes one uncannily perceptive and prophetic remark about the pride and exhilaration which convicts feel when chained hand to hand: "The world has focussed on us for a moment. We are capable of threatening the world in some way, no matter how small a way." He could have been talking about pictures of himself which appeared in the paper this week as he went to court accused of murdering a waiter who died after a fight in Manhattan only weeks after Abbott's release from jail.

George Brock

Murdoch dourly anatomized

Iris Murdoch: Work for the Spirit
By Elizabeth Dipple

(Methuen, £12.50)

Some say she is a witch, this quiet lady working quietly in Oxford, quietly writing novels; quite a few. Iris Murdoch lights fuses under our added, idle wits, detonating perceptions from end to end of her present score of stories.

It is a gift to Lit. Crit. of course. A Murdoch novel is what happens when muddled, maddening, human behaviour — yours and mine — meets a formidable (sometimes maddening) technique. She uses profound laws of causality; an enormous range of learned allusions; devastating accuracy in the detail of human character. From *Under the Net* in 1954 to *Nuns and*

Soldiers in 1980 they are strange eventful histories; binary codes of formlessness versus form, would-be-saint versus would-be-artist; integrity, lies, the perils of the spiritual life in mythological frames. And such dreams as stuff is made of, called love.

"General" readers — *The Nice and the Good* — need not submit to trial by ordeal. We can add a discomfort to delight, and vice versa, by marking the mighty precepts which govern her merciless, mesmerizing tales. But the books stand up and bark anyway. Professor Dipple, seeking to show "the depth of Murdoch's massive achievement", allows as much; though she seems a little too mesmerized; not least by her own book on Iris Murdoch's works in their moral and religious context.

This American study is fervent in pursuit of the

Snark. No "significance" goes unsung, no reference unremarked, in nearly 350 pages and a Name Index weighted with thimbles and care, conscientious in "for-warding Murdoch's cause among her readers". *Crucial Coe*. But with forks and with hope you may find a Boojum. The analysis displays high moral fibre and authoritative leadership skills: a loyal, well-trained guide dog. Partially-sighted participants in our human comedy will continue to blunder along with Iris Murdoch leading shyly from behind. By God and Timeus, children, keep thinking which apigour of your disbelief. Eros, or Jesus, or somebody wants you for a sunbeam; and Professors of English, or Gobble-uns! I'll give you if you don't watch out.

Gay Firth

Fiction

What We Talk About When We Talk About Love
By Raymond Carver

(Collins, £6.50)

A hazardous place, Raymond Carver's world of characters and readers alike. Most of the 17 stories in this collection are set in lower middle-class America in the 1970s. Unemployment is constantly threatened, often experienced, though it never seems to leave the characters short of the price of a bottle of Scotch. But drink doesn't help. It just weakens resistance, sometimes fatally, to what Carver sees as the greatest threat to our survival — inarticulacy.

The typical Carver story opens with a couple at war. One partner has had enough of the other's drunkenness, shiftness, or infidelity, and wants out. But the words will not come, or if they do, they are misunderstood. So the only way to express pain and anger is to pick up the nearest bottle or heavy object. It is a world in which reaching agreement to separate is a triumph of diplomacy. But the break can never be clean, because it has not been satisfactorily explained. Raymond Carver's characters they can be weasels. For Raymond Carver's characters they are more like undetonated shells

— perilous to ignore, but often fatal to explore. The only people in *What We Talk About* who are truly at ease with language are the middle-class couples in the title story. But even they have failed marriages behind them, at least one of which gave way to a bloody aftermath.

In Mr Carver's hands, even the most mundane situation — a child's birthday or a drive in the country — can explode into grotesque violence. But it may not. By the end of every one of these stories, considerably more or mercifully less has happened than seemed probable at the outset. What gives them such tension is the writer's ability to conceal his hand until the last sentence. Where his characters struggle unsuccessfully to find words, Carver's own mastery of language is absolute. But pause for a moment to admire the austere precision of his sentences, or the perfection of each story's form, and you run a grave risk of being poleaxed. My advice is to read this book as fast as you can, to reduce the impact of the anti-personnel devices planted throughout it. Then start again, and find out why Frank Kermode has described its author as a full-blown master.

John D. MacDonald is an American master of a very different hue, and hue is the most just, since his latest novel, like all its predecessors in the Travis McGee series, features the name of a colour in its title. McGee is a curious character. He calls himself a Salvage Investigator, but is really an amalgam of contradictory

facets of the American character. He is a glorified beach-bum who never seems to worry where the next tankful for his converted Rolls is going to come from. (a very) amateur philosopher whose opinions on matters ecological and psychological are derived almost exclusively from the pages of *Time* and *Newsweek* magazines; and — if pushed — a man of action who will cheerfully accept the type of beating handed out to Dick Francis's heroes if it helps him thwart the forces of evil and mend the heart of a pretty girl, Simon Templar-style.

Free Fall in Crimmon (Collins, £6.95) is an example of MacDonald at, or close to, his best. It has a complex plot (which not only gives the author a chance to demonstrate his formidable technical skill, but also severely restricts the space available for his hero's tiresome soliloquies); an agreeable, sensible heroine; and an assortment of villains sufficiently disguised to appeal to most tastes. McGee is trying to discover who has murdered a millionaire already suffering from terminal cancer. His enquiries lead him first to familiar Florida haunts, and then to the West coast, whence a TV game show queen dispatches him to the location of an ill-fated art-movie in rural Iowa.

Hot-air balloons allow McGee to display his fearsome physique in a new element. But the mighty muscles are aging — as well they might be, since this is the nineteenth book in which they have been sorely tried — so professional help is en-

listed for the final shoot-out. Like his hero, John D. MacDonald is an old pro. He may have done it all before, but that's no reason to bow the novel. The narrative flows smoothly, the dialogue is crisp, and the action is handled with cool authority. Sadism is rampant throughout Buchi Emehet's sixth novel, *Destiny* (Bisraf (Alison & Busby, £7.95). But it is impossible to question (though harder still to hear) the brutality of her fictional account of the Nigerian Civil War, when the atrocities committed by both sides in that gruesome affair are no less well documented than the despicable posture adopted by the British Government of the day. It must be said that Miss Emehet has not been well-served by her editor, and she has been positively sabotaged by whoever read the proofs of this book. But for all its deficiencies as literature, *Destiny* Bisraf ought to be compulsory reading in whatever august academy the young men and women of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office learn their arcane trade.

David Benedictus's novelization of the film based on Brian Clark's play *Whose Life Is It Anyway?* (Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £6.50) is another book of dubious literary value. But it may be enjoyed by readers who wish to be reminded of Tom Conti's remarkable stage performance as the sculptor whose paralysis after an accident leads him to fight the hospital authorities for the right to die.

John Nicholson

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Why I quit the Tories for the SDP

by John Grigg



The author was twice a Conservative parliamentary candidate, at Oldham in 1951 and 1955, and has just resigned as President of the Greenock Conservative Association. He is an historian and political journalist who created a stir in 1957 when he criticized the Queen and her court for being stuffy and out of touch. He succeeded his father, a Conservative Minister as Lord Alincham in 1955, but did not apply for a writ of summons to the House of Lords and disclaimed the barony in 1963.

Comparatively few Tories occupying even modest positions in the party have so far decided to join the Alliance, though very large numbers of Tory voters seem to have done so — at least temporarily — in the secrecy of the ballot-box or the anonymity of the opinion poll.

These reasons for this are obvious. When a party is in government, loyalty to it can be represented as a public duty and in all sorts of ways discipline is easier to maintain (government being, for one thing, the principal fountain of "honour"). Moreover, the Tory Party, though deeply divided — more deeply than I can ever remember — is still in less of a mess than the Labour Party; and its leadership, though gravely defective, is all the same less so than Labour's.

Finally, traditional Tories are quiet people with a very marked disinclination to break with the past. That is both their strength and their weakness; but in present circumstances surely more of a weakness, because recently untraditional Tories, who are not at all quiet people, have been profiting from their inertia to take over the party and change its character. From being open-minded and realistic it has fallen under the spell of economic dogma, and from being on the whole tolerant and friendly it has become almost nasty.

My own sense of being no longer at home in it began when I watched highlights (if that is the right word) of the last party conference on television. The most outrageous scene was when a young man expressing unpopular but decent and thoughtful views in the law and order debate was virtually denied a hearing by a large proportion of those present, whose cultural level seemed to be approximately that of football hooligans. Mr Whitelaw was shocked at the time, as well he might be, and the other day said again (on Tyne-Tees Television) how distressed he was by the debate generally. But there has

been no such reproach from Mrs Thatcher.

No less deplorable, though rather less widespread, was the barracking of Mr Heath when he spoke in the economic debate. As not only a former party leader and Prime Minister, but also one of the most respected public figures in the world, he deserved to be heard in polite silence even by his enemies. Instead he had to complete his speech in a growing tumult of noise. Again, Mrs Thatcher did not condemn this rowdiness, but in her own speech on the last day merely said she was pleased that Mr Heath had been allowed to address the conference.

Mrs Thatcher had, there what was probably her last opportunity to make a truly conciliatory gesture to her predecessor, whose record as Prime Minister has been so vilely distorted and traduced by her supporters. But she clearly lacks the magnanimity even to heal the wounds within her own party, so it is hardly surprising that she has failed to unite the country.

To judge from some of her remarks the Sunday before last on BBC radio's *The World This Week*, she believes that her economic policies would have succeeded better if she had not been restrained by faint hearts among her colleagues and parliamentary followers. One was painfully reminded of those who said, and still say, that the only thing wrong with the Suez policy in 1956 was that we did not go through with it, whatever the consequences. In fact, to

have gone any further in that crazy and discreditable venture would have been to bring the country to utter ruin. And, by the same token, if the present Government's deflationary doctrines had been carried to their logical extreme, at a time of severe recession, there would have been very little left of the British economy or, for that matter, of British democracy.

At the time of Suez I was one who would have felt bound to leave the Conservative Party if there had been anywhere else to go. But the Labour Party had, as it still has, a built-in economic ideology, and was formally tied, as it still is, to a single sectional interest, while the Liberal Party was no more than a party of protest. Now, however, the situation is radically different. For the first time in the lives of most of us there is somewhere else to go, since the Alliance offers the chance of breaking away from economic dogmatism of Left or Right, and from sectional interest groups formal or informal.

At last there is the possibility of tackling the country's endemic problems, and of giving new life to its institutions — more especially its public institutions — with the backing of a substantial majority of the people.

This will only happen, however, if those of us who want it to happen do as much as we can to bring it about. The recent signs of dissension within the Alliance, and of a perceptible weakening in its popular support, have convinced me that I

ought to join. To want it to succeed, and yet not to join it, would be shameful and craven, and it is, I believe particularly desirable for Tories to join and to do so openly.

I have, therefore, asked not to be renominated as president of the Greenwich Conservative Association, and have written to the chairman as follows: "I shall be joining the SDP, because it seems to me that only the Alliance now has the capacity, or even apparently the desire, to unite the country and inspire a genuine national effort. The Tory party of my dreams was truly national and free from ideology. The party as I see it today is neither."

Needless to say, the office in question is very minor, and I am — or was — a person of very little consequence in the Tory party. But I hope I may be one of many such deciding to take this step — and that more important people may follow in their own way and their own time.

I am joining the SDP component of the Alliance partly for personal reasons, but also because the Liberal rank and file has shown a tendency to unilateralism from which the SDP rank and file seems to be exempt. But I entirely agree with Dick Tavener that what really matters is the Alliance.

To those like-minded Tories who feel that they ought at all costs to stay and fight within the party, I would say that they are wasting their time. In the short term the battle is lost, and by staying they will only be acquiescing in policies which they know to be either entirely wrong or, at best, inadequate — while denying something in which they more truly believe.

Moreover, they should reflect that nothing is more likely to bring the party to its senses than a heavy defeat at the next election; 1945 did it a power of good. But the alternative today is potentially so much better, for the country, than the Labour Party in 1945.

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Ronald Butt

No militancy please, we're workers

"If the present lines of development could be projected into the future, the next 10 years would probably see a gradual decline in the fortunes of the Labour Party. It has attained its true objective, the Welfare State, and is finding difficulty in attuning its organization and methods to the social and economic structure of the United Kingdom."

This projection, with which the late Sir Ivor Jennings concluded the second of his three volumes on party politics, in 1961, seemed somewhat outmoded by the triumph of the Wilson Government two years later. Despite the accumulating economic storms which eventually wrecked that government, the social democratic categories of thought, then expressed through the dominant wing of the Labour Party, were in the ascendant.

Besides, even the best findings of the socio-political statisticians seemed to affirm that this was the natural state of things. In 1969 Dr David Butler and Professor Donald Stokes published their massive statistical survey of political change in Britain, which suggested that, towards the end of the century, demographic change in Britain would increasingly favour Labour.

The Tory victory of 1970 seemed something of a setback for this theory, but in 1974 the folly of the Heath government in first inflicting, then rousing the unionists against itself by pay controls

and finally appealing to the electorate from the midst of the chaos it had created once more changed the scene. Labour was back, but without a clear majority and increasingly in the left's grip. It was union militancy that overthrew Mr Callaghan, and Mrs Thatcher succeeded to an inheritance that seemed potentially more dangerous than that of any Prime Minister since the war.

So which projections now look more in tune with events, those based on the Jennings analysis, or the pointers of the Butler-Stokes statistics? Of course, the scene is confused since we now have a Social Democratic Party which in some sense is the heir of the old Labour Party. Even so, when we examine the basis of the Jennings reasoning and apply it to the scene now, it remains remarkably convincing — much more so than the arid statistics of the Butler-Stokes inquiry.

"Not all trade unionists support trade unions and many of their wives dislike their industrial activities even more. It is necessary to join in order to get and keep a job, but strike pay is not enough to maintain hire purchase payments." If that was the case when Jennings wrote it in 1961, how much more true it looks now, as Mr Arthur Scargill rants and roars at the miners' expected refusal to give him a blank cheque for militancy and against Mr Joe Gormley's "unparalleled act of betrayal" in advising the miners to think carefully

before rejecting the Coal Board's offer.

But it is not Mr Scargill's rage, nor even Mr Gormley's advice, that is most significant now. It is Mr Gormley's words of caution to the miners have been heeded (he shall know for certain today) it is only because he advised them to do what it was already in their hearts to do. The miners can be implacably militant when they feel they have a real cause, but they are always slow to take extreme action (they were even in 1973-4) and they cannot be led where they do not want to go — or persuaded to write blank cheques for militancy at a leader's whim.

The reason why they are particularly reluctant to be destructively militant now is that which I have already quoted from Jennings — only more so. It is not only their hire purchases but their mortgages (they are increasingly house-owners) and other commitments associated with middle-class standards that would be put at risk. They do not wish their families to be Arthur Scargill's sacrificial victims. They voted for Mr Scargill as a useful man on offer because a tough man is useful in an unavoidable crisis — but they do not want that crisis if it can be avoided. Nor do they wish to give him absolute powers.

Throughout this winter, we have had evidence of Left-wing leaders pushing as hard as they can to bring their rank-and-file out to destroy

Left, which is more virulent, bitter and ruthless than ever. The one thing that would shake workers' confidence in their new middle-class values would be a continuing economic decline, a failure to stop the rise in unemployment and the fear of people in well-paid work that it was at risk. They will not risk unemployment to satisfy Mr Scargill's sort of politics; they might, however, turn to the Left if this year, hope seemed to dwindle into deeper economic insecurity.

That is why the Left has a vested interest in economic failure, and will use industrial action if it can to bring these about. It is correspondingly why Mrs Thatcher this year has to stop the decline going further without accelerating inflation again.

Meanwhile, the ordinary worker plainly does not want Mr Scargill, Mr Benn or even Mr Foot, and will still not want them, even when they hide behind such respectable hostesses of the new Labour dispensation as Mr Healey and Mr Hattersley. Labour's essential problem is that diagnosed by Jennings.

The reason is, of course, that "working-class" is an increasingly outmoded concept. What remains true in 1982, this is the year in which every working individual's attachment to liberty and social evolution through the parliamentary system will be put to the crucial test. So far, in January, the auguries do not look at all bad.

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The Pope with Archbishop Glemp: a crucial partnership

Can the Pope save Poland?

by Roger Boyes

Warsaw The way out of the Polish crisis seems to hinge more and more on the intricate relationship between the Pope and the Polish Primate, Archbishop Józef Glemp. It is a personal and politically inspired liaison that has been marked since the beginning of martial law, five weeks ago, by an almost daily flow of messages and signals, sometimes implicit in speeches and sermons, sometimes spelled out in missives carried by hand between Warsaw and the Vatican.

The church has been holding negotiations with the state virtually since the imposition of martial law on December 13 — indeed the church has become the only interpreter for the Military Council of the Polish people's needs.

With the Solidarity leadership locked up and the party obsessed with inner purification, the church claims to speak both for the people and through its links with the Vatican, for the non-communist world. As martial law has evolved, so too have the church's aims. The first priority was to prevent bloodshed and this dictated the Primate's call for calm and non-violence — after the proclamation of martial law.

But two other goals have been running side by side, reflecting the differing priorities in the episcopate. On the one hand the guarantee of the existence of church rights and privileges, and on the other hand, the ending of internment without trial, improvement of prisoners' conditions, the release of Mr Lech Walesa, Solidarity's leader, and the recognition of the right to be a Solidarity member.

Some progress has been made. Mass is being broadcast on radio again after a gap of four weeks. The church has won the right to visit internees, deliver food and clothing, and about 1,000 of the officially admitted 6,000 have been released.

But all of this progress has been won by the application of pressure from the church. It is a sobering lesson of Polish politics that absolutely nothing has been achieved — throughout the 16 months of Solidarity but also before and after — without pressure being applied to the party and the Government.

It has been said (though not written) by a Polish journalist that if in June, 1981, the Government had voluntarily given half of what it was offering under pressure in November, the events of December 13 need never have taken place. Solidarity pushed hard because history had taught it that without push there was no give.

Now the church is doing

the pushing, and neither the Pope nor the Primate need any lessons in Polish history. The Pope follows Polish events closely. Before the suspension of newspapers under martial law he used to read the Polish Catholic Weekly *Tygodnik Powszechny* and *Gazeta Krakowska*, once a controversial daily.

He is surrounded by Polish advisers and the Vatican Secretary of State, Cardinal Agostino Casaroli, is rated as a top East European specialist. The Pope has met Mr Walesa three times — urging moderation on him — and has not been shy of receiving Polish officials, including, in October, a two-hour audience with Mr Józef Czyrek, the Foreign Minister.

But the main source of information remains Mr Glemp and the Polish episcopate. Since Mr Glemp succeeded Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński as Primate last July, the Pope's understanding — and some say control — of Polish events has increased.

Cardinal Wyszyński, a longstanding champion of the church in Poland and seen as a guardian of the national spirit, could scarcely have been dictated to by the Pope, the former Cardinal of Cracow. But Mr Glemp is a man who understands the Pope, church sources say, and a man, too, who understands Polish politics.

He had spent about 12 years in Cardinal Wyszyński's secretariat (and has two doctorates in law) and as the Cardinal weakened, he helped to shape church policy towards the nascent workers' movement. Cardinal Wyszyński's priority was to urge moderation on the Solidarity leaders and also prevent a divided nation.

But Mr Glemp has evolved a different style, a more active political posture. First, he has chosen sides. That is, he is on the side of the workers' right to organize, articulate their demands, control their own destiny. In this he has received the full theological backing of the Vatican. Indeed, the Pope's third encyclical, "Laborem Exercens", pronounced that trade unions were indispensable for the struggle for social justice.

Second, having chosen sides, the Primate knows how to make workers' movement palatable to the authorities. He understands the balance of power in the party and precisely to what reformist faction he can appeal.

The Pope himself has not been niggardly in criticizing the Polish leadership and the public nature of the attack has given the church in Poland more muscle. It has brought the Pope's first declared willingness of the Military Council to make concessions.

There are, however, many unsolved political problems. The Pope has received letters from Mr Walesa and from General Wojciech Jaruzelski, neither of which offered any hope for a settlement. This has led the primate to express his impatience with both sides — more or less openly (that is, in talks with a United States Senator).

Mr Walesa, he said, wants to bring the party to its knees. But that, too, is a backhanded compliment to the Solidarity leader — a recognition that Mr Walesa is still a powerful and central figure.

But the Archbishop's most interesting and most politically motivated — remarks were about General Jaruzelski. He was uncertain, said the primate, how long the general would last in his position. That was a way of reminding General Jaruzelski, despite his role as head of the Military Council, is still a "moderate" — that is, a man who still believes fundamentally in talks with church and unions, who may perhaps be willing to see the recreation of a trade union that would not be a simple return to the straitened pre-August 1980 model.

Behind the general, the primate was implying, there are much tougher forces, men who would be quite happy to advance without serious talks. If Solidarity holds out much longer, those elements could gain the upper hand and that would be bad for the church as well as for Solidarity.

The Solidarity leadership is still held in detention centres. The next push, it is expected here, will again come from the Vatican, which is a great mobilizer of Western opinion and, therefore, pressure.

Above all, the Pope's commitment to go ahead with his visit to Poland this year, must surely be interpreted by the Government as a threat. The last visit in 1979 could fairly be said to have given Polish workers their consciousness of strength for the first time.

Millions of ordinary people were allowed to group together and share belief without being controlled by the militia, or being officially organized. If that experience is repeated, at this time of deep frustration and anger, the Government faces an explosive mixture.

Mr Mieczysław Rakowski, the Deputy Prime Minister, told a news conference on Monday night that he welcomed the Pope's visit but he was happy enough to pass on to the next question. The great test of strength between church and state is still to come.

BBC put a new man into Warsaw

Tim Sebastian, arguably the BBC's best-known foreign correspondent since Alistair Cooke, is to be repatriated shortly and replaced by Kevin Ruane. Sebastian has come to the end of his two-year assignment, and the Polish authorities will not be sorry to see the back of so penetrating a reporter. Ruane, however, is no stranger to their affairs. He has reported eastern Europe before and, while awaiting his visa from Warsaw and official notice of his appointment from Broadcasting House, he is boning up on the latest events in Poland by writing a book about them.

Called *The Polish Challenge*, the book covers the developments of the past 18 months as reported in the Polish and Soviet media. It is the first history to be based entirely on foreign broadcasts (recorded by the BBC's monitoring service at Caversham), and contains considerable material that has never seen print in the west. Ruane says he found particularly interesting discrepancies between Polish and Soviet reports, and says there were periods when the Moscow line seemed seriously at odds with all of its east European allies. He has already finished the book once, and is presently re-writing the last two chapters to take in the imposition of martial law and the crushing of Solidarity. To

Words of worth

I rather suspect that John Morressey, the American writer, has invented a marvellous new game. After all the other books in the genre, Morressey has devised *The Oxford Book of Negligible Literary Anecdotes*. It can do no better than give you three of his examples, published in the American magazine *Harper's*:

● William Wordsworth and Samuel Taylor Coleridge were setting out from Dove Cottage for a long walk among the Grasmere hills. They had gone about a quarter of a mile when they heard a faint cry. Turning, they saw Dorothy Wordsworth standing by the gate, waving and calling to them.

"I think she wants to tell us something," Wordsworth said. "Maybe we'd better go back," said Coleridge.

● When John Dryden was writing *Aurengzebe*, he had great difficulty deciding on a last line for the play. He mentioned the problem to King Charles II. "How about 'That's the way it goes'?" the king suggested. Dryden thought for a moment, then shook his head and said, "No, your Majesty."

● Marcel Proust was taking tea with friends, and the conversation turned to childhood days.

THE TIMES DIARY



The appointment of Sir Desmond as the next chief scientist in the Department of Health and Social Security is symptomatic of the extent to which psychiatry, formerly one of medicine's Cinderella specialisms, has finally come of age.

Sir Desmond, currently Professor of Psychiatry at London University and a former president of the Royal College of Psychiatrists, takes up his new post in March, the footsteps of Professor Arthur Butler, a professor of physiology.

Yesterday Sir Desmond told me that "as the job has a great deal to do with the psycho-social aspects of medicine" it was obviously appropriate for someone like him to be around to be considered for the post.

The Professor, who is founder

One friend said: "Marcel, do you recall the time you and I and Anatole released all of your father's chickens on the lawn during the baroness's Fête champêtre?"

The other friend, laughing heartily, said: "That was great fun, but what I will never forget is the time we put peacocks into the apartment when the baroness was entertaining the Hussars."

Proust smiled and said: "I had quite forgotten."

devoted his life to crusading for the amelioration of Jews. He visited Palestine seven times, the last one not long before his death at the age of 102. Quarters, streets and institutions carrying his name bear testimony to his contribution.

The campaign to transfer his remains to Israel was initiated by Mr Yaakov Aviel of Tel Aviv, a researcher in Palestinian History and the Sephardic legacy. He said Sir Moses' heirs in England, including Bishop Hugh Montefiore, a grand nephew, have told him they agree the remains should be in Israel but they have expressed disappointment that the move has not been initiated by an Israeli Government which have not hitherto responded to private initiatives but, I understand, will cooperate fully with the Israeli Government. The lobby is demanding a state funeral for Sir Moses.

Sex appeal

I don't quite know how I feel about this given the subject matter: but Tom O'Carroll, the child-sex propagandist who is serving two years for sexual offences, is proving an undoubted success with his book *Pedophilia*, despite the fact that he himself is in a secluded cell in Wandsworth for his own protection.

His book came out here a year ago, has already sold out, and is being reprinted. Now the book will be published in America and O'Carroll has received a £1,000 advance. O'Carroll's editor, from publishers Peter Owen, has visited him in jail to see if the increasingly successful author is

Simon, does one's sympathy for the underdog include the police?



engaged on another book; but he has come away disappointed. O'Carroll's case is up for parole at the moment and, it is released, O'Carroll says he wants nothing more than to return to his family and stay well out of the limelight.

Nuclear truths

Lord Zuckerman was in fine form yesterday, dropping just a suspicion of a hint that Harold Macmillan's superior classical education, President Eisenhower's may have contributed to the 1959 failure to agree a comprehensive nuclear test ban. The 77-year-old life peer explained the point during a lengthy exposition of the perils of the arms race —

the subject of his latest book, *Nuclear Illusion and Reality* (Collins). Zuckerman, who was scientific adviser to the Minister for Defence in 1959, has dedicated the book to Macmillan who, he says expressed himself in the strongest terms to the American President on the importance of a test ban. According to Zuckerman, Macmillan said: "I told the President that we ought to take risks for so great a prize. We might be blessed by future ages as saviours of mankind, or we might be cursed like the man who made 'Il gran rifiuto' — the great refusal made by Pope Celestine when he abdicated from the papacy and so opened the way to Boniface, who, according to Dante, brought moral disaster on Church and Christendom. Said Zuckerman yesterday: "I was speaking to an American, and he said: 'What the hell did Macmillan say that for? What the hell did he know about that?'"

Excuse fingers

I can forgive restaurateur Bob Peyton the fact that his new "fashionable" restaurant, The Chicago Rib Shack, which will open in Knightsbridge in February, will be filled with tired old fairground junk that he has paid £100,000 for (it's his money). I can forgive him that on Thursday this week he will audition 15 harpists to play amid the junk (it's easy to talk over the harp even when it's playing "Chicago"). But what I can't forgive is that he is doing away with knives and forks and making people eat with their fingers.



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MR REAGAN'S FIRST YEAR

The whole of the free world has an interest in there being an effective President of the United States. Yet so many hopes are vested in the office that it has become almost impossible for it to be filled satisfactorily. Not since 1972 has a president been elected to a second term, and Mr Nixon does not offer the most fortunate of examples. Not since Eisenhower has a president served two terms. Already there are signs that the process of intense exposure that consumed Mr Ford and Mr Carter may be beginning to have its effect on Mr Reagan. At the end of his first year there is no shortage of critical voices.

The record is certainly mixed, but it is much better than many of the critics would allow. Mr Reagan's greatest strength is that he has shown himself to be an accomplished politician in office, as well as in campaigning. This is the quality without which no man can be a successful president. It has been displayed to greatest effect in Mr Reagan's handling of Congress, at which he has been more adept than any president since the first two years of Lyndon Johnson.

This quality is linked to his capacity to communicate with the public at large. His performance at press conferences, which are so important in the United States, has been uneven; yet he has managed to convey the impression of an agreeable man, relaxed in the exercise of power, capable of explaining his policy with clarity and even eloquence, and also on occasion of decisive action. That was demonstrated most effectively in his rout of the air traffic controllers, and in his espousal of the zero option proposal for the intermediate-range nuclear missile negotiations.

This record disproves the caricature of an irrational extremist that was presented to the outside world, and indeed often to the American public itself, before his election. Nor is his Administration run by a bunch of cowboys, as might be supposed from some critical comments. It is not as orderly as seems appropriate to those

accustomed to European forms of parliamentary government, but it is more orderly than Mr Carter's team.

Why then the criticisms? One reason is that many people had a preconception of what a Reagan presidency would be like and have attached particular importance to all those items of evidence that have appeared to justify their fears. But that is not a sufficient explanation. There have been important failures in both the foreign and domestic fields.

In foreign policy there has been a weakness in organisation that can be attributed in large measure to the difficulties that Mr Haig has had with his colleagues. Mr Reagan is not a president who wishes to immerse himself in foreign policy, but he is not willing simply to hand over control in this field to somebody else. This requires that the administration should contain a principal architect and coordinator of foreign policy, who commands the close confidence of the President, but who also has a sensitive awareness of the limits of his authority.

Mr Haig was chosen for this role, but he possesses neither of those qualifications. He has also clashed frequently with his colleagues, most notably Mr Richard Allen, while he was still the National Security Adviser, but not only with Mr Allen. Now that Mr Allen has been replaced by Mr William Clark this part of the administration may function more smoothly. But there can be no doubt that these difficulties have made more protracted the adjustment of international realities necessary for a government that took office with too simple a view of the world.

The struggle with the Soviet Union is the most important aspect of international affairs for the United States. If it gets that part of its policy wrong, the whole world stands to suffer. But it is misguided to see every issue in terms of that struggle. If the United States sees every situation in the light of international Communism it is more likely to create conditions that will

enable international Communism to extend its influence.

This excessive simplicity has certainly hampered the United States policy in the Middle East and Latin America. The reputation for excessive simplicity has damaged the relationship with western Europe. But it would be wrong to put all the blame for the difficulties of the alliance on to the Americans. An unhealthy mood has developed in western Europe that is too dismissive of American concerns, especially when these should properly be the concerns of the alliance as a whole, and takes America too much for granted. The improvement of relationships within the alliance should be seen not as a challenge alone to which Mr Reagan will be judged, but as an equal obligation on both sides of the Atlantic.

The strength of any American administration in foreign policy, however, depends substantially upon the success of its domestic policies. This is where Mr Reagan is likely to experience his most critical challenge. It may be too facile to blame him for the fact that the American economy is in severe recession. But its return to health will be impeded so long as the President continues to pursue a collection of incompatible policies.

It is impossible to reduce the budget deficit, cut personal taxation and increase defence expenditure, while preserving social security payments and refusing to raise taxation in other areas. The most telling criticism of Mr Reagan is that like so many other presidents before him, and so many heads of government in other countries, he wants the best of all worlds. The critical challenge for his second year is whether he takes the inevitably unpleasant decisions required to reconcile his policies with each other, and whether he can then exercise his considerable political gifts to make those decisions acceptable to the American people. It will be a formidable task, which illustrates the difficulty of that great office now that a comfortable rate of economic growth is not automatic. But there is hope that he can do it.

THE RULES OF MONOPOLY

The Monopolies Commission is most commonly thought of as a body intended to stop the wealthy and strong gobbling up the small and weak when there is no benefit to public or consumer. Would that that were still the case. It is not. Over the past five or six years, and most surprisingly under a government formally committed to letting the market take its course, the scope and nature of the Monopolies Commission inquiries have been widened to include reviews of the efficiency of the nationalized industries, opinions on the personalities of management and regional policy, and deciding whether a merger would be a good thing *per se*, not simply whether it would create an unwelcome market dominance. In a succession of recent reports, most notably on the Lornho acquisition of The Observer (allowed), the Lornho take-over of the House of Fraser (disallowed), the projected take-overs of the Royal Bank of Scotland (refused) and the European Ferries take-over of Sealink (refused) and Berisford's bid for British Sugar (allowed), the commission has been inconsistent not just in its judgments but in its approach.

This is not entirely the commission's fault. The successive acts defining its role have been drawn deliberately widely to leave much discretion to the Secretary of State for Trade in making a reference and to the commission in deciding how to

define the public interest in any case. How the immediate interests of a company in danger of closure can be set against the dangers that its take-over implies for competition in the marketplace must always be a subjective judgment made by case. The commission does and should respond to public mood. In so far as one can discern any trend in its recent decisions it is towards a more questioning approach to the value of merger, which broadly accords with present fashion.

Yet the startling inconsistency of the commission's recent reports betrays problems deeper than fashion or human fallibility. The fact that different reports can find one thing good enough to own a national newspaper but not good enough to own a draper's store, and that they can say within months that one bid (Berisford for British Sugar) would bring no benefit but should be allowed and that another (Hiram Walker for Highland Distillers) should be refused because it brought no benefit suggests that a widening discretion is becoming a cause for confusion rather than improvement.

Part of the problem lies in what the commission is being asked to do. Increasingly Ministers are using it, as in the case of the Royal Bank of Scotland, to cope with awkward political issues rather than examine real questions of competition. The commission itself responds by

coming to conclusions which are essentially political. And this in turn highlights the limits of competence of the members of the commission itself and those it co-opt. There are on the whole good establishment figures from the Civil Service, the legal profession, the academic world and industry, able to investigate the rationale of mergers but ill-equipped to decide broader questions such as the Bank of England's role in monetary control or the weight of multiples in gaining discounts for retailers.

The terms of reference under which the commission examines individual cases need to be better drawn. Even without a formal change in the 1972 Fair Trading Act — the source of much of the confusion — the Trade Secretary should be more precise in setting the ground rules for an inquiry. He might well suggest, as an innovation, the areas on which he would expect a firm recommendation by the commission, essentially the questions of competition, and other areas where he might ask the commission to consider and advise, but reserve to Cabinet the duty of final decision. That would put the responsibility for political judgments where it ought to lie. Judgment even in the area of competition must always remain a broad and subjective act. But it is time that the Monopolies Commission was reined back to concentrate the better on the areas of its greatest competence.

Alliance prospects

From Mr John Pick
Sir, Dick Taverne writes (January 12) of the Liberals and the SDP: "the two can prosper only if they become one party or remain permanently allied by such close ties that they are one party in all but name." He sees the Alliance as forming what he calls the "radical centre" — a phrase so meaningless that it must surely indicate some confusion of thought — and imagines that there are no ideological differences between liberals and social democrats.

Perhaps the statement of a few principles will make it plain that it is mistaken. A liberal solution to a given problem is one which increases the freedom and responsibility of individuals. This applies everywhere and at all times. A liberal society would be one in which people cooperate in complete freedom, with full

responsibility accepted and shared. If we cannot attain that, we must, as Liberals, get as near to it as life will allow. The appeal of "community politics" to us is not merely that it may succeed in righting local wrongs, but that it encourages individuals and communities to take responsibility and to insist on decisions for themselves how their lives shall be run. The detailed policies necessary if we are to move in the preferred direction have been formulated and are embodied in the full Liberal programme — a programme of which social democrats seem entirely ignorant.

Does this sound like an account of social democracy acceptable to the state-oriented Labour refugees who formed the SDP? Those of us who joined the Liberal Party during Jo Grimond's leadership are committed to the establishment of the libertarian radical movement

which British politics so desperately needs. If, indeed, it is the aim of Dick Taverne, David Steel and others who think like him to make one party out of the present Alliance, then it will be necessary to form a new Liberal Party. I hope they will, with due reflection, put this in their pipes and smoke it. Yours sincerely, JOHN PICK, Hollins, Balmacellan, Castle Douglas, Kirkcudbrightshire, January 13.

Proper names

From Professor Edward Garden
Sir, I recently received a letter addressed to "Mr E. G. Prof". Yours faithfully, EDWARD GARDEN, Department of Music, University of Sheffield, January 12.

Educative task for CND

From Mr Edward Leigh
Sir, In his response (December 24) to my recent report on civil defence deficiencies, the Vice-President of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, Lord Jenkins, professes willingness to spend "billions" of pounds on providing fall-out shelters for the British people. Yet he recommends this only if we cease to "insist on having Soviet weapons targeted on us by targeting ours on the USSR." It is his opinion that civil defence is useless except for neutral countries (which may only have to cope with the incidental side-effects of direct nuclear attacks upon their neighbours).

If that is true, may I suggest to the CND that it has a major educative task to perform in the Soviet Union? The Russians take civil defence very seriously indeed, regardless of the fact that Western nuclear weapons are targeted on their centres of population.

Thus, on December 1, Colonel Fedir Shevchenko in charge of the city's Civil Defence preparation, stated on Lvov radio that in 1982 the emphasis would be on "the practical training of the population in ways to protect themselves against weapons of mass destruction.... There should not be a single installation in Lvov without a civil defence training point."

Of course it would be an unspeakable catastrophe to undergo the effects of a nuclear war, whatever the state of our home defences; but, if they are honest, the advocates of deterrence and unilateral disarmament alike have to admit that neither of their policies would rule out all prospect of this occurring. Nor is it even certain that a nuclear war, if it came, would take the form of an all-out strategic attack, as Lord Jenkins seems to take for granted.

Blood and Grail

From Mr Geoffrey Grigson
Sir, It doesn't matter of course if writers write silly books for silly readers. It cannot be helped, anyhow. But it is dismaying when a publisher who has been servant to so many great writers descends to publishing such an extra-silly book as *The Holy Blood and the Holy Grail*; and it is dismaying that *The Times* feels obliged to play ball with such nonsense in a column and a half next to its leading articles (January 18).

You don't really need to go to bishops for assurance that such rubbish is rubbish, and I can't suppose that the move from Old to New Printing House Square left you short of rubbish bins. So far so bad. But how ought we to describe the basic share of the BBC in promoting, in several programmes, an affront to reason as silly, if luckily not as dangerous, as the *Protocols of the Elders of Zion*? I know that the grand cultural aspirations carved in Latin in the foyer of Broadcasting House are contradicted over and over again by programme authorities, but to screen such silliness before millions of viewers is, whether cynical or not, disgusting. Yours etc, GEOFFREY GRIGSON, Broad Town Farmhouse, Broad Town, Swindon, Wiltshire.

From Mr Malcolm Muggeridge
Sir, Having been asked to provide participating in a television programme on the book *The Holy Blood and the Holy Grail*, referred to in your issue of January 18, I had occasion to take a desultory look at it. The impression formed was that, after much ardent endorsement by Christian leftists to present the founder of the Christian religion as the Honourable Member for Galilee South, here was a move to get him into Debrett. Yours sincerely, MALCOLM MUGGERIDGE, Park Cottage, Robertsbridge, Sussex, January 18.

Capital error

From Mr S. R. Gould
Sir, After Mr J. R. Waters's letter (January 11) it is only fair to remind readers of the tragic event which followed the capital's renaming, namely the so-called *Gesundheit* purge. Older readers will recall that when the party secretary announced the name change to Przasyszw, two senior party theoreticians, policy and theory, promptly replied "Gesundheit!" and they, together with their families, were immediately incarcerated and were never heard from again. The name of the party secretary has, alas, been lost to history following the withdrawal of volume "Czaz-Czy" of the *Ruritarian People's Encyclopedia*. Yours faithfully, STEPHEN R. GOULD, 50 Kingswood Road, SW19, January 11.

The Yalta Agreement in retrospect

From Mr Maurice Petherick and Sir Victor Raikes
Sir, As the mover and "winder-up" respectively of the motion, taken as one of "no confidence", in the House of Commons on February 28, 1982, challenging Mr Churchill's Government on the Yalta Agreement, perhaps you will allow us to reply to the confused letter of Professor S. E. Ambrose in your paper of January 15.

The victims of four partitions and countless vicissitudes, the ancient and formerly independent Poland was restored after the 1914-18 war. Its postwar frontiers were acknowledged by the rest of the world and guaranteed four times by the Russians, Britain and the Commonwealth and France entered the war in 1939 in Poland's defence.

At Yalta President Roosevelt and Mr Churchill agreed to terms under which Poland was to lose to Russia nearly half its territory, the ancient and formerly independent "Lion City" of Lvov. Also torn away from Poland were huge resources of timber and coal, half its grain, flax and hemp, 40 per cent of its water supply, 55 per cent of its oil and natural gas and a great part of its chemical industry, potassium mines and phosphates.

This shameful surrender to Stalin is ignored by Mr Ambrose. He appears only to claim that the office by the Russians was to fail to honour the agreement to install as the new government of Poland the "Lublin Committee", pledged to "free and unfettered elections", and that all that Solidarity is now demanding is protection under that part of the Yalta Agreement. As we emphasised in the debate, the whole notion of Government by the Lublin Committee, imposed upon Poland from outside largely on Russian terms, was a travesty of the freedom as an independent nation to choose its own Government, a freedom which ought to have held good to this day.

Those of us who opposed the Yalta Agreement saw their worst fears realised in a matter of months. When meeting, as we did

for several weeks before putting down our motion, being reluctant to challenge our Government in wartime, we tried to find some overwhelming reason, unknown to us, which could justify so dire a breach of faith affecting not only Poland, but all the nations of central Europe and indeed the whole world. And every time we came to the conclusion that the Allied leaders believed that, unless they gave Stalin what he wanted, Russia would make a separate peace.

To this we replied, to ourselves, that although this might have been possible at the time of Stalingrad, when the Russians were nearly down and out, it was inconceivable that they would be so foolish as to do so when their great enemy, Hitlerite Germany, was on the point of collapse, thus giving it a chance of recovery.

So we believed then, and it has become clearer day by day since, that Yalta was not only a grievous betrayal but one of the most fatal errors of judgment in all history.

We are, Sir, your obedient servants, MAURICE PETHERICK, VICTOR RAIKES, Portneave House, St Austell, Cornwall, January 18.

From Mrs Wanda Jordan
Sir, In connection with the article "Moscow and Poland: don't let Yalta cloud the issue" by David Watt (January 15), may I recall another conference at Teheran in November, 1943, at which half of the Polish territory was handed over to the Soviet Union without the knowledge and approval of the Polish Government. At that time the military strength of the Western powers was at its highest and there were no Russian Troops on the Polish soil yet.

Alas, the skeleton in the cupboard is still there. Yours faithfully, W. JORDAN, Garden Flat, 4 Hamilton Road, WS, January 16.

British Telecom

From Mr T. U. Meyer
Sir, Your indignation (editorial, January 15) against British Telecom is justified but your analysis misses the point.

To be efficient an organization requires two qualities: an incentive at the point of direction to make progress and do well; and respect for an outside vigilant body who will expose if it does badly or corrupt its office. In the private sector, the shareholders can see to the last. In the public sector there needs, in the final resort, to be public accountability through Parliament.

Until the Post Office Act, 1969, with its accompanying efforts in the preparation of which some of us were, to our own dismay, concerned, the GPO had, for centuries, enjoyed the possibility of meeting both criteria. Postmasters General such as Neville Chamberlain, Clement Attlee, Ernest Bevin, Harold Wilson and Wedgwood Benn were clearly people out to make their mark. The GPO gave them their opportunity. Moreover, every Post Office manager knew that, at any time, Parliament might, through his Minister, call his performance into question.

Despite endemic capital and equipment shortages the record was not unimpressive: the pre-war Empire Airmail Scheme, which enabled Imperial Airways to open up routes to New Zealand and Australia; the second cheapest, and probably the most efficient postal service in the developed world; essential pioneer research, development and trials of submarine telephone cable technology; development in collaboration with the Ministry of the first British telecommunications satellite receiver/transmitter ground station (which British industry failed to exploit) at two fifths of the cost of the parallel United States development; a ship-borne communication and safety of life service with little chance of profitability upon which much of the world's shipping still relies.

Until 1969 to admit to being a Post Office servant was more likely to evoke praise than censure. Now, and in the future, the reason is predictable (and was predicted): the pattern of postwar corporations to which British Telecom conforms almost entirely lacks the first essential (incentive to do well and make progress) and is weak in deterrence against doing badly. The reason is that the pattern itself was designed (in the twenties) by the Crawford committee on broadcasting) with the main, and in its context admirable, emphasis on protecting the BBC from the influence of Government pressure and propaganda.

Social sciences

From Professor H. S. Ferns
Sir, Experience of the Social Science Research Council during 20 years as Professor of Political Science in the University of Birmingham persuades me that the Government will benefit itself, the taxpayers and the social sciences by abolishing this useless and expensive quango. The Social Science Research Council is a good example of the proliferation of costly centralized "decision-making" apparatus. The effect of its activities and its control of research funds has been to impair or destroy the autonomy of universities in the matter of initiating research, the selection of research students and the maintenance of standards. The notion that the Social Science Research Council "supports research" is quite spurious. The taxpayers support research. The role of the SSRC is to con-

Amazingly, the National Coal Board and then other public corporations were patterned on the same model: limited ministerial power, almost unsackable chairmen and protection from detailed parliamentary scrutiny; and remuneration of directors so low that it can be expected to attract a people of sufficient weight only if they are nearing retirement. Consumer councils and select committees may do a little, but they cannot fill the gap. Nor, with respect, can competition. Not so long ago an American businessman needed three teleprinters in his office to reach the subscribers of competing telex companies. It was the Federal Communications Commission, not the competitors, which put a stop to that.

Yours faithfully, TOM U. MEYER, Meadow Bank, Levensay, Louth, January 18.

From Mr A. M. Findlay
Sir, Under the heading "Public inefficiency" (January 15) I looked forward to reading a homely upon my bumbling ineptitude, and that of my fellow subjects, on one of any number of important subjects. You have a rich field in which to work. Imagine, therefore, my disgust at reading your castigation of British Telecom, which provides me with a clear and simple method of talking to anyone I wish to talk to anywhere in the world, and whose account I pay without question, relying upon its well-proved efficiency.

Yours faithfully, A. MCCARTIE FINDLAY, 34 Woodland Way, Woodford Wells, Essex, January 15.

From Mr A. P. Judd
Sir, Having read the full-page advertisement in the *British Telecom* in today's paper (January 18), that for a bargain price of £3 (+ VAT) they will deliver a 50-word Telemessage the following working day, so long as the message is received by them prior to 8 pm on the previous day, it occurred to me that this service used to be offered by the GPO, without word limitation, under their first-class postage service, at a fraction of the Telemessage cost. Yours sincerely, A. P. JUDD, 66 Millbrook Court, Keswick Road, SW15, January 18.

The old and cold at risk

From Dr J. J. Fawcett and Dr J. S. Greenier
Sir, The comments by the Norwich District Coroner (report, January 14) on the four cases of elderly people dying at home in the cold weather illustrate the pressures on doctors and local authorities to remove elderly people from their homes against their will when they are considered to be "at risk" or live in squalid conditions.

If the persons concerned are demented or confused and unable to look after their own interests there is usually no problem in obtaining a compulsory admission order under the Mental Health Act, but if they are of sound mind and state, as did one of the women who died, "I am not worried about dying; I would rather die in my own bed", there is a serious ethical dilemma involved in attempting to remove them to hospital.

It is a common experience that old people who are so removed against their will frequently die in hospital soon after admission in considerable emotional distress, albeit in better physical circumstances. We feel it is better to strike a balance between the desire for a "tidy" solution favoured by relatives, neighbours and the relevant agencies and the risk of robbing the old person of the last vestiges of pride and independence which may be more important to them than their physical wellbeing or continued survival.

Yours faithfully, J. J. FAWCETT, J. S. GREENIER, Consultant Physicians in Geriatric Medicine, The West Suffolk Hospital, Hardwick Lane, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, January 14.

Accents uncertain

From Mrs A. Thomas
Sir, The Greek Minister of Education "confidently" estimates that using one accent rather than three in writing Greek "will save the average Greek schoolchild 6000 hours of his life" (your leading article of January 16, 1982). If we assume 5 hours of work per day in school (generous?), this would add up to a good 6 years of full-time schooling being devoted exclusively to learning to read and write. The Minister of Education himself had to spend so much time on learning his accents that he did not have enough time for his sums? Yours faithfully, ANNE THOMAS, 3 Carr Bank Close, Sheffield, January 16.

Living together

From Mr Ewen E. S. Montagu
Sir, I fear that Mr A. D. Hewlett (January 16) is embarking on a hopeless campaign. For some 20 of my years on the Bench I struggled against the use of the word "escapee" (from borstal, prison, etc.). This misuse was started by probation officers and quickly spread to the police, prison governors and the Home Office itself — and then beyond into the media and even (dare I say it?) into your august columns. Nowadays one seldom reads or hears of an "escapee". I am, Sir, etc., E. S. MONTAGU, 24, Montrose Court, Exhibition Road, SW7, January 16.

Cold reception

From Mrs M. Hannah
Sir, Would your correspondent, Tim Jones (*The Times*, January 16) who writes of the village of Llanwrtyd Major that "Mothers deserved the most sympathy, for the schools which should have reopened after the Christmas holidays, were closed, and they had to cope with endless streams of children from half-completed snowmen", spare a thought for those schools which, despite the snow, did reopen this week? The classroom in which another colleague and I teach is occupied by 62 small children, all of whom came in from outside dripping wet from having thrown the snow, rolled in the snow and built 62 snowmen between them. Incidentally, can any reader suggest a fast and simple method of sorting 124 small wet Wellington boots into 62 correctly matching pairs? Yours sincerely, MARY HANNAH, Deddington, Oxford.

Out of date

From Dr G. D. S. Henderson
Sir, English bishops at the council of Arles? *Non Angli sed Britanni* might be the least of our apostle Pope St Gregory's strictures on the tendentious claims of the Church of England as stated in the Bishop of Norwich's letter in Saturday's issue (January 16). The back page you equally defined probability with your fourteenth-century dating of that king and knight. Is this the start of a weekend "Spot the howlers" competition for *Times* readers? Yours faithfully, G. D. S. HENDERSON, University of Cambridge, Department of History of Art, 1 Scroope Terrace, Cambridge.

THE ARTS

John Heilpern reports from New York on 'Brideshead Revisited'

English nostalgia conquers America

Britain's cultural colonization of America continues apace. The first showing of *Brideshead Revisited* on United States television this week was promoted "with the remorseless stealth of a hunting cannibal" as Mr. Waugh wrote in *The Loved One* about the promotion of an exotic perfume called *Jungle Venom*.

Exhorted to enter "the very upstairs world of *Brideshead Revisited*", Americans possessing a Jamesian Anglophilia have certainly done so. The two-hour premiere of the series has been a resounding success, thereby confirming that only Americans can be as nostalgic about England's past as the English.

Brideshead now joins such popular television exports to America as *The Forsyte Saga*, *Upstairs, Downstairs*, *The Duchess of Duke Street* and *Edward & Mrs. Simpson*. Americans should be forgiven for having an image of Britain, produced by Britain, as a country that somehow began in Edwardian times and stopped at Oxbridge circa the 1920s.

The success in the United States of *Monty Python* and *Fawlty Towers* updates the image a little, though only to the extent that we are also seen in America as a nation of lunatics.

Brideshead Revisited ("made possible by a grant from Exxon") is being shown on the Public Broadcasting Service, a version of BBC American-style that is supported by the big oil companies, by begged-for public subscriptions and Federal subsidy (soon to be severely cut back). Its blessing is that it has none of the commercial network's massive advertising that hits the dazed viewer as fast as blizzards in winter. *Brideshead Revisited*, and other prestige British exports such as *David Attenborough's Life on Earth*, are instrumental in Public Television's battle to survive in America, after its own fashion.

As is the custom, *Brideshead* was packaged and hosted with due cultural solemnity. *Upstairs, Downstairs*, first packaged as *Masterspiece Theatre* in the US, was hosted by Alistair



From the promotion brochure for the debut of *Brideshead Revisited*

Cooke who delivered American TV's equivalent to the vicar's sermon: first he told viewers what they were about to see and, when all was done, he told them what they had seen.

To the mystery of all, *Rumpole of the Bailey* was released on Public TV in a series entitled *Mystery*, and was therefore hosted by Vincent Price sitting in what looked like Dracula's library. *Brideshead Revisited*, packaged as *Great Performances*, was hosted by William F. Buckley Jr., the political columnist, perhaps on the grounds that, as Mr Buckley

is both a Conservative and a Catholic, he was the ideal man for the job. He is also an Anglophile.

The American press greeted *Brideshead* as ecstatically as the British, though with an occasional self-lacerating edge. "The best series ever seen on American television and it is, needless to say, not American," wrote the *Washington Post*. "A magnificent achievement" — the *Los Angeles Times*.

"One of the most extravagantly beautiful mini-series you will ever see. Homosexuality was endemic, some

might say epidemic, at Oxford in the 1920s, and the frank presentation of this atmosphere in *Brideshead Revisited* may repel some viewers. Other than that..." — the *Philadelphia Inquirer*.

And more: "A must-see. Compelling. Even better than curling up with a good book," wrote *New York's Daily News*. "Truly special. Outstanding. Incredible. Lavish. The casting is unfailingly inspired, from the major roles to the innumerable passing cameos that the British seem to toss off with evitable ease" wrote the *New York Times*. Though the

NY Times review also noted that "This 13-hour production begins to sag quite noticeably about halfway through," it added "for the time being, anyone interested in Waugh or in splendid television should not miss the first several hours of this extraordinary presentation."

The normal ratings for Public TV were doubled and in some areas tripled for the premiere of *Brideshead*.

On the night of the premiere, producer Derek Granger of Granada Television, the mastermind behind the production, spent a quiet evening in Manhattan watching *Brideshead* with English friends. Charles Sturridge, its young director, was whooping it up at a *Brideshead* party in Hollywood, although the ghost of Evelyn Waugh would have disapproved. In contrast, our Ambassador to America remained safely in the Washington Embassy, and both Sir Nicholas Henderson and Lady Henderson were glued most happily to the box.

What does Sir Nicholas think of America's reaction to *Brideshead*? "Americans love it, of course," he tells me. They may find it a side of us that will possibly irritate them a little while it certainly intrigues them. A kind of English snobbery and grandeur, the sybaritic qualities. We have a knack of turning such things into an art form. The success of *Brideshead* probably confirms America's fond view of British eccentricity. On the other hand, it's like people being fascinated by the devil

What Evelyn Waugh would have thought is not, however, a matter of conjecture. When the wife of an American theatre producer told him that *Brideshead Revisited* was one of the best books she had ever read, he replied: "I thought it was good myself, but now that I know that a vulgar, common American woman like yourself admires it, I am not so sure." Absolutely disgraceful, of course. But Mr Waugh, as is well known, did not take kindly either to Americans or to America — or indeed to the invention of television.

Last night's television

The discoveries too good to be true

Poor Schliemann. Not only did he take the discovery of Priam's treasure during a convenient lunch hour in his excavation of Troy, but he never wrote his thesis in Classical Greek at Rostock. He never met the President in Washington and he missed seeing the San Francisco fire of 1851 by a month although he claimed to have done all these things in his diary. That he did was buy gold dust in Sacramento, short-change the bankers on the coast, and cover the tracks of his entire life so elaborately that it has taken one hundred years even to begin sussing him out. All this, a jolly shrink explained

in Roy Davies' film for Chronicle (BBC 2) was because his father was a bullying German pastor and inside the famous archaeologist was a little boy trying to get out and back by telling enormous fibs. Ladies and gentlemen on Swan Hellenic Tours said he was a great man if a bit crazy — well, you had to dig deep in 1873 to find anything at all — and among other ideas floated by Scots and American classicists in the course of a riveting programme were that Schliemann had assembled the treasure, from various sources and sites, in Athens itself, and that the theatricality of his methods as a pioneer of publicity

and the personal hype were precisely what the age and time required. Priam's treasure was too good to be true, but nobody wanted to know.

Jonathan Powell's production of *The Bell* (BBC 2) continues to resound with immanence and wit. The texture seems less Gothic and more straightforward than the novel — there is, after all, a real house, an actual bridge, well, gateway tower in the trees, but such is the strength, simplicity and effectiveness of these metaphors that Iris Murdoch's moral comedy of self-knowledge and salvation touches

reality and moves before us. Acting and direction hold the spell: a cast without weakness — above all, the bracingly vulgar Dora (Tessa Peasgood), abusive Nick (Kenneth Cranham), flesh-motivating Michael (Ian Holm) and scrupulous Toby (Daniel Mays) are splendidly handled by Barry Davis; while Chris Pinnell is so successful in setting *The Bell* in the Fifties that it was positively jarring to see Nick and Toby's characters from a bottle sealed with a modern top.

Michael Ratcliffe

Concerts

LSO/Del Mar

Festival Hall

It can be embarrassing to be present at an act of love, but not when the affair is conducted by a musician as generous as Norman Del Mar and a work as hospitable to affection as Strauss's *Don Quixote*. Everything about Tuesday's performance with the London Symphony Orchestra went right. The soloist, Douglas Cummings, took a thoroughly musicianly line and properly did not try to turn the work into a concerto but bent himself with flexible variety to the orchestral discourse, while his colleagues found within themselves every shade of humour, melancholy, warmth and savagery that Mr Del Mar demanded. He made the piece so consumingly interesting and intelligible that there was no need for anyone to bother with a key to this most densely eventful of musical

narratives. It was all said, magnificently, in sound.

More than enough was said, too, for me to come out of this concert with a wholly new admiration for Strauss's tone poems. Deal with her difficult to accept, but *Don Quixote*, as Mr Del Mar so eloquently showed, breathes in almost every bar the mingled feelings aroused by the spectacle of an insufficient hero.

It is because the emotional atmosphere of the score is so complex and ambiguous that *Don Quixote* has to rest to tanglings of musical line without parallel except in later works by Mahler and Schoenberg, saturated textures which were almost unbearable alive with meaningful detail.

Suddenly, after this performance, *Don Quixote* is for me a modern classic.

Paul Griffiths

Jazz

Funk that feels good

Morrissey-Mullen

Half Moon, Putney

Apart from the aberration of the trad boom, jazz-funk represents the first variety of jazz to have become widely popular on the dance floor since the big bands peaked in the 1940s. It is a streamlined, functional style representing a considerable aesthetic improvement over its older relative, jazz-rock, which emphasized display and decoration to the exclusion of heart and beat.

True, a high proportion of jazz-funk is thin stuff, wasting the talents of eminent improvisers in over-formulated settings. The best of it, however, has a warming simplicity and directness; its audience, too, seems not to

care whether the performers are black, white, yellow (the Japanese caught on early) or green, so long as the sound fulfils the requirement. The popularity of the style in British dance-halls has prompted the appearance of several home-grown bands, preeminent among whom is the sextet jointly led by the guitarist Jim Mullen and the tenor saxophonist Dick Morrissey, veterans respectively of the London soul and bebop circuits.

Most of the group's virtues reside in the playing of the leaders. Morrissey has long mastered the broad, grainy tone of the south-western saxophonists (notably King Curtis) who fathered the style; his phrasing is relaxed and convincing as that of any American. Mullen is a satisfying rhythm guitarist, but

it is his single-note solos, slow-burn accumulations of blues figures juggled with respect for variety, which take the ear. The rhythm section, led by John Critchinson on electric piano and synthesizer, is solid and idiomatic. Their repertoire is not particularly distinguished. The groove, and the way it makes the solos flow, is the thing. On Tuesday night, nevertheless, in the kind of pub-backroom environment that best suits them, Alan Gorrie's lilting, samba-tinged "Brazilian Nights" and Mullen's "Blue Tears", a neat 24-bar construction which releases its tension through emphatic turnarounds, proved particularly effective vehicles for this honest, gutsy music.

Richard Williams

Paperbacks

Adventures of Flora, an early feminist



Flora Tristan

The London Journal of Flora Tristan Translated, annotated and introduced by Jean Hawkes (Virago, £3.95)

Philanthropic women of today have few good causes on which to expend their energy. Public outrage generally stems from situations highlighted by the media rather than from active research by an individual. In the nineteenth century people just went off to explore and observe life in all parts of the world. London, basking in the glory of being the world's largest city and capital of the most advanced industrial nation, came under the critical eye of a formidable Frenchwoman, Flora Tristan.

One of the earliest socialists and feminists and possibly remembered as Gauguin's grandmother — Flora Tristan was an extraordinary woman. She made four visits to London between 1826 and 1839 and recorded her observations in a journal. Nothing escaped her attention; she scoured all areas of the city looking for — and finding in abundance — evidence of poverty and deprivation. This first translation into English by Jean Hawkes of Flora Tristan's journal gives a first-hand account of the English as seen by a Frenchwoman in the 1830s.

It is ironic that, at the exact time that Flora was recoiling in horror from the grisly torture instruments displayed in Newgate Prison, her English counterpart Elizabeth Fry was having much the same experience in France. Flora boldly marched into gin palaces, brothels, mental asylums and factories to inspect and question everything that went on. She even managed to gain entry to the House of Parliament by dressing as a Turk. This book would hardly be popular with the ardent patriot, unless he happened to be barefoot and starving, for Flora finds little to commend in the English people. From her observations in London she concluded that "the sober English gentleman is chaste to the point of prudery", and she bitterly condemned the hypocrisy and self-satisfaction of the aristocracy. Her genuine horror at finding so much starvation and disease in London behind the façade of prosperity and content shows through strongly in her acutely descriptive and compassionate narrative.

Flora smugly with ill-concealed smugness that Londoners, unlike the French, have to have their pockets made so that they open from underneath their coat-tails because of the large number of pickpockets in the city. But her own summing-up of her visits pinpoints the piteous state of affairs in "the monster city" when, after bemoaning the misery of the poor and the antipathy of the rich towards them, she laments that "the foreigner will scour the British metropolis in vain, for he will find no fried potatoes or roast chestnuts!"

Flora Casement

Cassandra at the Wedding, by Dorothy Baker (Virago, £2.95)

It isn't easy to write well about identical twins: their interwoven lives and matching thoughts have become too useful a plot too familiar a subject of scientific inquiry. But Dorothy Baker is a writer of considerable dramatic skill and *Cassandra at the Wedding*, her fourth and last novel about the struggle two girls go through to separate is far from obvious or banal.

Cassandra, a would-be writer and largely lesbian in her relationships, and Judith, a pianist, come together after a separation of nine months on the eve of Judith's marriage to a doctor. The more unstable but the more interesting of the two, Cassandra is also the one most wedded to her twin. Judith's marriage is unworkable. She does her best, explaining with patient logic how any ultimate split between them is madness, and when she fails to prevent the marriage, she takes an overdose. Revived by the doctor-husband, nurtured by the psychiatrist, she comes to accept that there "is such a thing as a whole life...work mostly, work, and interest, and love", and that she will give it a go.

It sounds too neat. Any glimpse however is redeemed by Dorothy Baker's humour and by the way she handles intensity within a framework of minor details and secondary characters.

Caroline Moorehead

Maria Callas, by Arianna Stassinopoulos (Hamlyn, £1.75)

Greek tragedy is part of our cultural heritage, evoking feelings of pity and terror. Maria Callas's life developed from humble beginnings, into a high tragedy, with overtones of melodrama.

Born in New York, a huge, unwanted baby, the girl Maria grew into a fat, ungainly young woman, with a remarkable singing voice. Her early struggles to become an opera singer, from humble beginnings, into a high tragedy, with overtones of melodrama. Married to a much older man who organized her career, she shed pounds to become the beautiful diva she was, not only of the opera, but of the gossip columns and the society of the ultra rich.

The author, perhaps wisely, does not attempt to

analyse in detail the musical side of Maria Callas's career. She was a powerful dramatic actress, and brought new intensity to roles unsung for many years, and the voice has an individuality quite thrilling. Her personal life was a pitiful mess. The eight years she spent with Aristotle Onassis meant that she virtually abandoned her career during what might have been fruitful and important years. She never recovered from his brutal rejection and his subsequent marriage to Mrs Jacqueline Kennedy. The farewell tours were excruciatingly painful to those who had heard in her prime, and she seemed to lose interest in life itself, dying suddenly at 54.

Arianna Stassinopoulos has produced a sympathetic portrait, and has had the assistance of many of Callas's friends and close associates. If, by her temperamental displays, her scenes with colleagues, and her steady perfectionism she committed the sin of hubris, the Furies pursued her (and Aristotle Onassis) to the end.

Philippa Toomey

The Heights of Rimbey, by Puff Hart-Davis (Dutton, £1.60)

Hart-Davis's *The Heights of Rimbey* takes us from the plucky rigours of English stalking to the perils of the Himalayas. Bill Stirling, a young ex-SAS officer (voluntarily retired from having shot a baby in a plastic bag in mistake for a bomb in Belfast) is drafted back to rescue from a Tibetan monasteries, and her steady perfectionism she committed the sin of hubris, the Furies pursued her (and Aristotle Onassis) to the end.

A subsidiary plot develops when an air taxi pilot, festering in Eastern corruption and bribery is set on, capturing the Emerald Goddess, and the intertwining of the two plots is cleverly and amusingly engineered. But the outstanding merit of the novel apart from its having rattled a gripping tale is its sense of atmosphere and place where the power of the Himalayas is drawn, with a knowing and delightful hand. Mission Y to the Monastery of Rimbey is an escape for Stirling, from a frigid, sterile home existence into a world of Nepalese warmth and mountain cold; of guns, spies and excitement; a world you are highly recommended to enter.

Geordie Greig

Not a naked noun in sight

The Hostage Bride, by Janet Dailey (Silhouette, 75p)

Janet Dailey's first volume of a new romantic fiction series asserts that J. Dailey has sold 80 million copies of her books; that she gushes eight romantic novels a year; and that she is the first best-selling author in the world. Her work must be of some interest, if only statistical, to readers of *The Times*. An American psychiatrist is cited in evidence to support the puff: "Men can gain valuable insights into the desires and emotions of women by reading romantic novels." This book offers the insight that the way to treat a woman is to stick your tongue up her ear, feed her cake with your fingers, flatten her breasts against

your lean, pulsating chest whenever you can grab her, and generally treat her rough, but nothing too explicit below the belt, you understand.

Tamara, improbably brilliant accountant, borrows company funds to pay the bills for her wild mother. Her company is taken over by the ruthless entrepreneur, Bickford Ruediger. The plot is slight and silly, but dressed in petticoats of gentility. No noun is allowed to go naked without epithets. The Skin is living bronze as opposed to the other sort. The ripeness of Tamara's breasts is not just any old ripeness, but swelling. Bick's finger leaves an invisible icy trail down poor old Tamara's spine. At least it didn't stain

her pristine executive blouse. There is an obsession with the price of life shades of lipstick, ghastly menus, flashy furniture. Bick's idea of a good night out for the now evidently immaculately pregnant Tamara is to take her to the Kansas City Plaza, "the first shopping centre in the United States." You will get more interesting facts from the telephone directory; better writing in buff forms from the Inspector of Taxes; more insight into the ways of men and women from the evening paper, let alone a single conversation from Jane Eyre. Those 80 million readers are missing out on books, on dreams, on life.

Philip Howard

Sales of Manuscripts are booming

Sales of autograph Manuscripts totalling £1,650,000 made the 1980/1981 season into a record year. Sales in the summer of 1981 were equally buoyant and there is every indication that the current 1981/1982 season will exceed £2 million.

Recent Prices include: The Codrington Papers for £91,000; Document signed by Henry VIII initiating the "Rough Wooing" for £17,000, (three times the price of any previous auction record); The Papers of Dame Edith Evans for £6,600; the autograph manuscript of Tennyson's "In Memoriam" for £100,000.

Future Sales We are collecting material for our major summer sale scheduled for 29th June and the following day. The closing date for consignments is 20th April 1982. For further information please contact Roy Davids or Felix Pryor (quoting ref: MS1).

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BUSINESS

Wages

Average earnings 11.5 per cent yesterday. The 11 per cent in 11 months, the lowest reported in 1974, have set the trend.

St Aubyn

The St Aubyn Smith Corporation, a London-based firm, has reported a 10 per cent increase in the value of its shares.

Shipyard

The shipyard, which is a subsidiary of the Smith Corporation, has reported a 10 per cent increase in the value of its shares.

ICI may shed 1,300 jobs

The ICI group, which is a subsidiary of the Smith Corporation, has reported a 10 per cent increase in the value of its shares.

Retirement

The retirement fund, which is a subsidiary of the Smith Corporation, has reported a 10 per cent increase in the value of its shares.

Special

The special dividend, which is a subsidiary of the Smith Corporation, has reported a 10 per cent increase in the value of its shares.

LONDON EX

The London Exchange, which is a subsidiary of the Smith Corporation, has reported a 10 per cent increase in the value of its shares.

COMMOD

The commodity market, which is a subsidiary of the Smith Corporation, has reported a 10 per cent increase in the value of its shares.

TODAY

The market today, which is a subsidiary of the Smith Corporation, has reported a 10 per cent increase in the value of its shares.

هكذا من الأصل

BUSINESS NEWS/COMPANIES AND MARKET REPORTS

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI

Touch the lion and think of Germany

Money luck — that is what the Chinese say a mere touch of the British lions outside the Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation's head-office building confers. It remains to be seen if any is forthcoming from this week's meeting between Mr Michael Sandberg, the group chairman, and Mr Gordon Richardson, the governor of the Bank of England. The Monopolies Commission rejection of the bid for Royal Bank of Scotland seemed very final.

But HSBC did trail the tempting clue that it would be ready to consider an acquisition elsewhere in Europe. The board has not said no to suggestions of Germany.

HSBC takes Chinese fortune telling very seriously. A "shui feng" man gave instructions for the lions to be moved out of line outside the new building, and all the main board directors flew into Hongkong to touch the lions at dawn on opening day at his instructions. Lacking

that sort of line on Germany prospects must be considered on a slide-rule approach.

Germany would be the easiest market in which to buy a major international bank — one of the attractions of the Royal Bank of Scotland. That is unless the Bundesbank says no.

In Holland and Switzerland, in theory other potential areas of expansion, the banks and insurance companies would probably get together in the incestuously close markets and lock out a bid.

Foreign money has been allowed into Germany in other areas — bits of Krupp, Daimler, Benz and Deutsche Babcock went to OPEC interests. The Chinese link is not as strategic, but the wealth of the colony might look attractive to a central bank whose banking system is ailing under the pressure of the high debt burden and high interest rates.

Sally White



Mr Michael Sandberg: Time to buy a German bank?

TATE & LYLE

Boardroom grip gives £5m boost

Tate & Lyle has not been a stock market favourite for a long time, but that is — or should be — changing. Pretax profits up £5.6m to £36.3m, are the result of much tighter management and, what is more, they came from the company's core operations of cane sugar production and refining, commodity trading, and molasses. These businesses contributed £44.7m collectively to trading profits of £54.7m.

Rationalization has been a key word in the new management's vocabulary, and the effects of closures are clearly seen in the politically-sensitive United Kingdom cane sugar refining. After closing Liverpool, and investing heavily at Thameside, trading profits were £9.4m against £5.6m.

Part of the increase is attributable to a write-back after excessive provision at the end of last year, but there can be no doubt that the United Kingdom refining operations are looking healthy.

North America is the area of greatest promise, and if this year goes well a further expansion, particularly in the United States, is very likely.

BRITISH AEROSPACE

Don't panic over Laker rumour

British Aerospace shareholders should not panic at the news leaking out from the Laker Airways rescue operation that all of Sir Freddie Laker's European Airlines may end up on the market. The banks are taking a tough approach.

Laker has three A300s in the fleet, which may have to be sold at the end of the summer season. Seven more A300s were on order. But £500m (£264m) or so worth of Airbus are nothing in the total Airbus market. There are 505 of the aircraft on order — 347 firm orders and 159 on option. Takers are likely to be available in these conditions for both the new and used aircraft.

No profits have been taken by British Aerospace from the Airbus project since the late 1970s. The British have 20 per cent of Airbus Industrie, the international consortium which is building the aircraft, and eventually will obtain the 20 per cent of profits due to it. That may not be until 1984-85. In the meantime it is being paid for the parts it has provided — the wings.

Sentiment has cooled towards British Aerospace since its issue, and there has been worry about the vast

cost of new plane projects for which British Aerospace will provide parts. High interest rates and low passenger traffic compared with earlier forecasts have also reduced the glamorous aura of the industry.

The news now awaited by British Aerospace is the extent to which the United Kingdom government is going to provide money for the next aircraft — the A320. This is a 150-seater twin-jet short haul. The A300 is a 269 seater — for medium hauls.

Airbus Industrie will undoubtedly go ahead with building the A320. The question is whether or not British Aerospace can afford to go on. It has presented the Government with three options.

● That it take a 30 per cent stake, which would cost £600m. Then it could develop the nose, forward fuselage and instrumentation, final assembly and flight development.

● That it take a 20 per cent stake to design the wings and manufacture them, and the wing boxes. This would cost £400m.

● That it should provide the rear fuselage/tail unit. That is also a £400m project.

INTERNATIONAL



AUSTRALIA

Mass meetings of striking coal miners in New South Wales have voted against a proposal to end their action to allow talks on their pay claim to go ahead. The miners are on strike for a 20 per cent pay rise.

● Petroleum exploration in Australia is scheduled to double this year in terms of the number of wells planned. A total of 302 new wells are scheduled.

BELGIUM

Belgian unemployment in mid-January surged to a record 10.4 per cent, representing 433,200 workers. The comparable rate on a year earlier was 9.3 per cent or 384,700.

● The EEC Commission has imposed an anti-dumping duty on United States Phenol. The duty follows a provisional levy imposed last July.

UNITED STATES

The United States inflation-adjusted gross national product fell at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 2.2 per cent in the fourth quarter of 1981, after rising 1.4 per cent in the third.

MALAYSIA

Yamaha will assemble 10,000 motorcycles a month in Malaysia, up from the current 3,500 to 4,000 units a month to cope with increased demand.

AUSTRIA

Press reports that Austria is seeking a \$1,000m (£32m) loan from Saudi Arabia are premature. Finance Ministry sources said Mr Mohammed Abal-Khalil, the Saudi Finance Minister, is visiting Austria for talks on economic relations.

INDIA

A two-day meeting of the Indo-European Economic Community Joint Commission begins in New Delhi tomorrow. It is the first since India and the EEC signed a new five-year commercial and economic cooperation agreement last June.

CANADA

December activity in Canadian manufacturing and processing industries showed a decrease from November, according to a survey. ● Canadian consumer confidence turned slightly upward in the last three months of last year ending nine months of decline.

JAPAN

Japan's plans to cut non-tariff trade barriers will include an after-delivery tariff assessment system to smooth the flow of goods into the country.

Base Lending Rates

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The Over-the-Counter Market

1981/82	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Gross Div	Yld %	Actual	P/E	Full Yield
120	100	ABT Hides 10% CUTS	120	—	10.0	8.3	—	—	—	—
75	62	Airsprung Group	69	—	4.7	6.8	11.0	15.2	—	—
51	33	Armitage & Rhodes	46	—	4.3	9.3	3.8	8.7	—	—
201	187	Barclay Hill	201	—	2.7	4.8	9.8	11.9	—	—
104	82	Debonair Services	82	—	6.0	7.3	4.1	7.7	—	—
129	97	Frank Horsell	128	—	6.4	5.0	11.5	23.7	—	—
73	39	Frederick Parker	73	—	1.7	2.3	31.7	—	—	—
78	46	George Blair	48	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
102	93	IPC	95	—	7.3	7.7	6.8	10.3	—	—
105	100	Isis Conv Prof	105	—	15.7	15.0	—	—	—	—
113	95	Jackson Group	96	—	7.3	3.0	6.3	—	—	—
130	108	James Burroughs	114	—	8.7	7.6	8.3	10.5	—	—
334	250	Robert Jenkins	250	—	31.3	12.5	3.5	—	—	—
59	51	Scruttons "A"	55	—	5.3	9.6	8.5	—	—	—
222	167	Torday & Carlisle	167	—	10.7	6.4	5.4	—	—	—
15	10	Twinkl Ord	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
80	66	Twinkl 15% ULS	74	—	15.0	20.3	—	—	—	—
44	29	Unilock Holdings	29	—	3.0	10.3	5.2	8.8	—	—
103	76	Walter Alexander	76	—	6.4	8.4	5.0	—	—	—
263	212	W. S. Yates	216	—	13.1	6.1	4.1	8.3	—	—

Prices now available on Prestel page 48146

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GESTETNER

Payout cut as profits plummet

Gestetner, the ailing stencil, duplicating and copying group run by co-chairmen Messrs David and Jonathan Gestetner, has not lost its knack of disappointing the stock market on every count. Turnover rose by only 6 per cent to £279.8m in the year to last October; and after charging directly against profits redundancy and other rationalization costs of £1.8m, against £526,000, and interest £5.37m, pretax profits of £15.9m fell to £6.2m, which, adjusted for inflation, became losses of £6.7m. Many European subsidiaries went into losses on which there was no tax relief so that historic total after tax profits all but vanished at £732,000.

The real net loss was £12.16m. Not surprisingly,

the gross dividend halved to 3.75p.

The disappointment was not just with the annual figures, though the second-half profits slump was if anything faster than in the first six months, and 1977's heady £30m pretax profit now looks remote.

There are doubts about the management, whose control is perpetuated by a two-tier share structure through which the Gestetner family control more than half the votes. The co-chairmen take turns in the executive chair, and the impression of a cosy, if not costive family business is not allayed by a stout refusal to enfranchise the voteless shares, or by the misfortunes of Associated Communications Corporation.

There are doubts about the scope of the steps being taken to remedy profitability. The key Tottenham factory lost £3m last year. The chairman says: Action has been taken and continues to be taken to improve levels of productivity". The United Kingdom labour force has an average drop of 1,400 to 3,600 over the past year,

and is smaller now. But the full productivity gains sought by management are not being won and there is an impression outside the group that cost-cutting has been half-hearted.

Streamlining and partial loss-elimination abroad — the pound has moved in Gestetner's favour — could optimistically indicate pretax profits of 10m this year (before possible further redundancy expenses).

But yesterday's 6p fall to 50p in the voteless shares reflects the view that the group's time as a lively situation stock has not yet come. Conceivably, only the abolition of voteless equity or a precipitous slide into a financial morass could turn it into one.

JAMES AUSTIN

Extremely competitive conditions in the steel industry have been blamed for a dramatic fall in profits at Dewsbury-based James Austin Steel Holdings, the steel stockholder, for the half-year to September. Pretax profits slumped from £431,000 to £106,000, though the volume of business was unchanged,

and sales were £7.74m, against £7.77m last year.

Mr Ronald Hooker, the chairman, says the recession has not ended and until there is an economic recovery in the United States, world trade will be slow to recover. "Nevertheless, there has been some sign of improvement in the past few months in the UK market and if this continues, it is certain that our trade will benefit", he said.

An unchanged dividend of 2.38p gross is being paid.

Mr Hooker said the group's financial position was still strong and a useful contribution from interest on bank deposits had been received in the period.

The principle subsidiary, James Austin and Sons (Dewsbury), performed better than expected because poor demand for steel in the UK was offset by increased exports. Several valuable orders for processed steels were also obtained. Prices have risen by around 15 per cent since the start of the year, and this will cause initial resistance from customers. West Valley Steels, bought for £350,000 cash last March,

traded at a loss in the half year.

Another main subsidiary, Austin Structural Engineers, suffered more severely than expected with orders scarce and prices at an abysmally low level, said Mr Hooker. A serious loss in the half-year had made its future very uncertain and the board had decided to re-structure the company and operate at a reduced level, concentrating on steel fabrication.

The cost of redundancies would be about £160,000 and would be charged as an exceptional item in the annual accounts.

The shares fell by 3p to 65p.

ANGLIA TELEVISION

A small rise in profits for the year to October was made by Anglia Television Group, the IBA contractors for the East of England headed by Lord Townshend, which produces and exports *Survival* and *Tales of the Unexpected*, and also makes *30 of the Century*. Yesterday it announced only a small profit increase for the year to October, from £4.6m to £4.7m. Sales increased from £32m to £37m. Earnings per share fell to 20.54p from 28.01p.

The Exchequer levy, charged on all commercial TV companies, fell from £3.3m to £1.8m, but the tax charge rose from £859,000 to £1.88m, mainly as a result of a cut in the benefit of capital allowances for expenditure on fixed assets and programmes. Depreciation and amortisation charges increased from £1.14m to £2m as a result of revaluation of freehold property and technical and other equipment. The surplus on revaluation was £3.5m from which a deferred tax charge of £1.8m was deducted. On a current cost basis the operating profit was up from £798,000 to £1.09m.

A final dividend, up from 4.28p gross to 5.42p gross on the A shares, takes the total payout for the year to 8.57p gross from 7.14p gross.

Mr David McCall, director, said, buoyant advertising sales in the last quarter of the year increased programme sales overseas and a



Lord Townshend

bigger contribution from associated companies, which include Sodastream, had held profits up.

The company's *Wildlife* series, which is over ten years old had been successfully exported to the United States and the rest of the world, as had the drama series *Tales of the Unexpected*.

But leaner times, if only in the short term, are expected as a result of the £2m subscription to the IBA for the cost of programme making by Channel 4. This is due to go on the air in November, but Anglia will not get the benefits of its investment until its next financial year.

"This year the fourth channel is a minus and we will have to see whether we can cushion this through advertising revenues", Mr McCall said. The market view is that the immediate prospect are dim and the shares moved up only 1p to close at 117p.

But against the trends in consumer spending, television advertising is continuing to hold up strongly, though its unpredictability and the ever-present possibility of an increase in the Government levy have tended to dampen enthusiasm for the shares.

CORNELL DRESSES

Cornell Dresses, which became part of Mr Asil Nasir's Polly Peck group at the end of 1980, and fore-shadowed details of a diversification away from the textile industry.

BIDS AND DEALS

BOC Group has entered into an agreement that could lead to its acquisition of Glasrock Medical Services of Atlanta. Initially, the group will acquire a 14 per cent stake (749,000 newly-issued shares) in Glasrock for \$14.98 (£7.9m) and put two of its executives on the Glasrock board. The purchase will be made through the BOC Group's U.S. subsidiary, Airco, Inc., which already holds debentures convertible into 112,500 Glasrock shares.

The agreement also permits the group to purchase up to, but not more than, an additional 400,000 Glasrock shares in the open market or privately. The Glasrock directors have further provided BOC with the option to purchase 785,000 shares, owned by them, in the event that the group decides to make an offer for the remaining outstanding Glasrock shares before April, 1983.

Immediate Business Systems has entered into a conditional agreement with Plessey to purchase for £1.15m the business and fixed assets concerned with the development and manufacture of an automated portable billing system, principally for use by public utilities. An application for a placing of shares of Immediate Business Systems on the United Securities Market will take place shortly.

SGB Group has now entered the Canadian construction market with a new Vancouver-based offshoot — SGB Jackson. SGB Jackson has obtained a distributorship in British Columbia for the sale and hire of a heavy-duty aluminium scaffolding frame system and has purchased from the Canadian manufacturers, Jasco Industries, an initial stock of equip-

ment valued at (Canadian) \$3.2m (£1.4m).

Rio Tinto-Zinc's wholly-owned subsidiary purchased on January 19 1982 a further 650,000 ordinary shares of the W. Ward at a price of 230p cum dividend (equivalent to the value of RTZ's increased cash alternative, plus the Ward final dividend). With the 21.12 million Ward ordinary shares previously acquired, RTZ and the wholly-owned subsidiary between them own 21.77 million Ward ordinary shares (37.31 per cent of the issued ordinary capital).

CAPITAL MARKETS

Citicorp is issuing a three-year, zero-coupon Eurobond for a nominal \$150m through its overseas finance subsidiary, the lead manager, Merrill Lynch International reports. Priced at 66.50 per cent, the bond will yield 14.57 per cent and will provide \$89.75m, excluding commissions. This is the tenth zero-coupon Eurobond to be floated by a United States company since January 12. Borrowers on the French bond market raised francs in new issues in 1981, slightly lower than 110,300m francs in 1980, according to figures released by Credit Lyonnais. Overall volume in most sectors was little changed, despite the halt in new issues during electoral activity in May and June.

INTERNATIONAL COMPANIES

Fiat achieved a "significant profit" in 1981, while the car sector broke even despite the extremely difficult situation of the car market, the board reports. Consolidated group turnover in 1981 rose to 22,000

This advertisement is published by Morgan Grenfell & Co. Limited on behalf of The Rio Tinto-Zinc Corporation Limited (RTZ). The directors of RTZ (including those who have delegated detailed supervision of this advertisement) have taken all reasonable care to ensure that the facts stated and opinions expressed herein are fair and accurate and each of the directors accepts responsibility accordingly.

Final Offer by RTZ for Ward

RTZ's final offer is £2.30 nominal of RTZ convertible stock or 225p cash per Ward share both plus Ward's final 5.2p dividend.

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Mariner House, Pepys Street, London EC3N 4DA.

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BUSINESS NEWS/FOCUS AND COMMENT

PEOPLE

A Capulet to the Montague?

Michael Montague, chairman of the theatre firm Valor Company, has another job selling cold, wet England to British and foreign tourists. He doubles as chairman of the statutory English Tourist Board and, I hear, is so successful that he is being reappointed to a second, three-year term.

Montague, however, is being less than successful with his opposite number at



The Arts Council's Kenneth Robinson (left) and the Tourist Board's Michael Montague.

the Arts Council, Kenneth Robinson. Montague, aware of the poor season English coast resorts could face this summer, suggested that the Arts Council could back a few seaside summer showplaces for the many as well as opera and ballet for the few.

Rut Robinson, former chairman of English National Opera and Labour Minister, is giving a chilly reception to such proletarian nonsense.

Stake me to your leader

Sir James Hanson, chairman of Hanson Trust, the firm which recently bought the Ever Ready battery group, is one man who evidently thinks Mrs Thatcher is leading us towards the light. Sir James is giving £40,000 of Hanson Trust shareholders' money to the Conservative Party, having donated nothing last year. He says he is concerned Mrs Thatcher is wavering in her economic resolve and the money is to demonstrate support for her policies.

© The area controller did not have far to send for fire engines when a blaze was reported at an office block on the Thames waterfront in London yesterday. The fire, in which nobody was hurt, broke out at Number 26 Albert Embankment. GLC fire brigade HQ is at Number 8.

Give and take a gift or two



Business gift student Dr Kathleen Reardon.

It took time, but at last People has managed to catch up with Kathleen Reardon (above), who wrote that study for The Parker Pen Company which I reviewed the other day, *International Business Gift-Giving Customs*. Dr Reardon is assistant professor of — wait for it — corporate and mass media communication sciences at the University of Connecticut. When the peripatetic Dr Reardon returned to base, she told People — interpersonally, of course — that what she likes in a gift is not size or cost but something that reflects some consideration of whom Kathleen Reardon is.

She is a lady who collects dolls and plays indoor racquetball, so there are two clues for starters. Of all the countries covered in her study (which is a gift — Parker is charging £5 a copy) Britain, she says, "emerges as one of the least gift-giving." Dr Reardon recommends instead entertainment, whether at home, in a restaurant or at the theatre.

Ross Davies

NEW APPOINTMENTS

Sir David Nicolson has joined the board of Selincourt as non-executive director. Mr D. A. Gledhill has been appointed to the board of directors of Cathay Pacific Airways. Mr Keith Ness has been appointed managing director of Comex, a subsidiary company of Tarmac. Doctor John T. Harvey, managing director of Union Carbide UK, has taken over the additional responsibility of direct management control of the company's carbon products division. This role was previously performed by John Brannan, the general manager of the division, who has accepted an appointment with Union Carbide Europe, based in Geneva.

US 'building societies' are facing severe financial problems. Frank Lipsius reports

Shotgun marriages for America's savings banks



The New York Bank for Savings: deep financial trouble

New York. The New York State Banking Department announced at the weekend that the Buffalo Savings Bank had come to the rescue of a second New York bank threatened with bankruptcy.

The merger will cost the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation \$30 million in a straight cash deal which allows the Buffalo—now merged with the Western New York Savings Bank, having already swallowed the Union Dime several weeks ago—to become the nation's fourth largest savings bank with assets of \$5,500 million. This is the fourth forced merger in New York State since the end of last year.

The deal brought a sigh of relief from the banking authorities who have been desperately trying to avoid a merger between one of these savings institutions and a commercial bank.

Such a union would require by law that actual closing of a bank and transfer of assets, while the thrust of the effort to date has been to paper over the desperate condition of savings banks with the appearance of a routine, though forced, merger with a similar bank.

The authorities overlooked the monopoly implications of the bank's assumption of 32 per cent of all deposits in the New York State community of Buffalo in order to approve the merger. While in voluntary mergers the State can take as much as four months to deliberate on its implications, a New York State banking official admitted that the authorities were working "under pressure" to find a partner for the failing Western New York Savings Bank.

Prosperous savings banks are hard to come by these days. Low fixed interest rates are discouraging savers and the banks' income from low-yield, long-term mortgages and bonds.

The New York Bank for Savings, which has half a million depositors and assets of more than \$3,500 million, has been in the past three months in deep financial trouble and is not alone. But in their quietly aggressive way, state banking authorities are avoiding an aura of panic by finding and subsidising mergers between the dwindling number of healthy savings banks and savings and loan associations (S and Ls) — equivalent to building societies — and the growing number of failing institutions.

So hard has it been for the banking authorities to unload the New York Bank for Savings that it may yet have to be divided into more bite-

size bait to match a buyer's understanding wary appetite. It now looks likely that the rescue will be sufficiently unorthodox to make banking history. The New York Bank for Savings could be the first savings bank taken over by a commercial bank (the Chase Manhattan has expressed interest on the right terms). But the New York Bank for Savings is only one of many sliding down the precipice.

In November New York State superintendent of banks Miss Muriel Siebert called on the government to establish a special commission to study the losses that had hit 69 per cent of all S and Ls in 1980 and produced a net loss to the industry in 49 states.

The erosion of the financial base of these "thrifts" as they are called, was now a national problem, she said. Last year was a horrifying one for the savings banks. Altogether 23 of them faced forced mergers (compared with 10 the year before) and for the first time a New York State bank had to call on the assistance of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) to work out a so-called "supervised" or forced merger.

That marriage between the

Greenwich and the Metropolitan Savings Banks cost the FDIC \$485m, and with 500 more thrifts already in technical bankruptcy, or in danger of failing within the year, the federal insurance pool of \$18,000m no longer seems the comfortable cushion it once was.

If America is to do without the thrifts altogether it may also have to get along with a severely constricted new housing market which will somewhat tarnish the American dream of every working person owning his own home, a prospect which as superintendent Siebert put it "has contributed greatly to the political stability of which Americans are justifiably proud".

Ironically, the most prosperous savings banks and therefore the obvious candidates for taking over less successful ones, were the first to turn their backs on the traditional role of the thrifts in providing 30-year mortgages for single-family homes.

The Jamaica Savings Bank, only one of four to show a profit in the third quarter of 1981 among New York City's 38 savings banks, was also the only one to be refused permission to open a new branch.

The state banking department came to that decision after accusing the bank of refusing to invest in poorer areas of the city, a charge which the bank denies, although its president admits that the state's usury laws had caused him to look elsewhere for more profitable lending anyway.

The Jamaica is known as a contentious and aggressive institution that progressively cut its mortgages from ten to five, to three-year terms, a move which prevented its being squeezed as interest rates went up, but also put it outside the definition of independent Siebert gave of the role that thrifts were intended to fulfill: investing in long term fixed rate residential mortgages and long-term bonds.

Praising the failed Greenwich, she commented: "It literally helped build communities. But by being a good citizen, it like many of its sister institutions, was trapped in an unprecedented interest rate squeeze."

The problem for thrifts has been that unregulated money-market mutual funds offered by stock brokers have largely replaced savings accounts for the American middle-classes.

The funds' total assets

doubled in 1981 to \$190,000m while S and Ls reported a drop in net worth of \$4,300m to end the year at only \$28,000m.

The money market funds invest in short-term borrowings issued by companies as certificates of deposit and by the government as Treasury Bills. Because the minimum lot of such dealings is \$10,000, they were beyond the means of small investors until the advent of the money market funds, which invest by pooling their customers' assets.

With maturities of under 30 days, the funds can closely follow the rates available on the short-term money markets.

The New York Times summed up the growing dissatisfaction of savers with the thrifts in an investment-advice column called, "The Year's Worst Investments". Savings accounts headed a list that included such notable problem areas as gold (which halved in value in the past year), and backing Broadway shows, where less than a quarter of the openings last more than a week.

Slating savings accounts as "senseless", the article pointed out the sad truth that the top interest rate at savings institutions, set by law, remains a maximum of 5½ per cent.

While the thrifts are at a severe disadvantage against mutual funds whose interest rates fluctuate in line with the prime rate, the bankers have tenaciously fought deregulation that would force them to increase the cost of their money when their portfolios are still stuffed with 30-year mortgages with single-digit fixed interest rates.

Instead, they got the government to establish all-savers certificates as a one-year stopgap measure. Tax exempt, and paying a yield equal to 70 per cent of one-year treasury notes, the certificates looked like a neat way for the government to subsidize the banks' desperate need for funds at lower than prime interest rates.

But interest rates played tricks on this supposed solution when declining rates at the end of 1981 brought the all-savers into single digit territory, "even though", said Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner and Smith analyst Jerry Baron, "it's a pretty good deal on after-tax comparison".

The shotgun marriages among the troubled thrifts are supplanting a more orderly and much needed overhaul of banking regulations. With stockbrokers playing an increasing role in unregulated financiers, the banking community is rightly calling for a more comprehensive approach.

Business Editor

De Lorean: just a pit stop?

The De Lorean car company, which has been a political hot potato since its inception, is rapidly growing hotter still.

Its \$25,000 sports cars, which sold so well in the United States for most of last year, are piling up in dealers' yards and showrooms, unable to find buyers even at substantial discounts. Output from the Belfast factory has been halved.

De Lorean blames the slump in the United States car market and confidently predicts an upturn in the spring. But should luxury cars like the De Lorean be so vulnerable to recession? More likely, the distinctive gull-wing doors are now seen as an impractical gimmick, and the car has, of course, had its critics.

Yesterday it was announced by Northern Ireland minister Adam Butler that independent consultants are being appointed to assess the company's performance and prospects. This should soon establish whether the De Lorean car is viable, or whether, like the yo-yo and hula hoop, it has had its day. The potential dilemma for the Government if the report's findings are less than favourable is obvious. Having brought 2,500 jobs and a measure of stability to a volatile Catholic area of Belfast, could it afford the human misery and the political opprobrium that would result from closure?

Whether the Government will have to face up to that decision remains to be seen. Where policy takes Government into such types of investment, the public must accept that there will be a number of failures. That is not, of course, the same as saying that the Government entered into this particular venture on the most sensible of terms in the first place.

Earnings Could be worse

Yesterday's encouraging pay figures from the Department of Employment and the Confederation of British Industry, coupled with the receding threat of a miners' strike, will come as welcome news to the Government in its anti-inflation campaign. But undue optimism would be misplaced. According to the CBI most settlements in manufacturing, where recession is most likely to exert downward pressure on pay, have been in the 4 to 6 per cent range in the early months of the present pay round which began last August. This is down from 7 to 9 per cent in the first half of the 1980-81 pay round, but the average remains above the 4 per cent or so the Government and the CBI want.

In other sectors, such as financial services, settlements are also slowing from last year but are running ahead of manufacturing. And with only 5 per cent of workers settling between August and December, the possibility of a pay freeze is yet to come cannot be ruled out.

However, this threat now seems less likely to come from the public sector than from the private sector than

was feared only a few weeks ago. The miners seem to be about to settle, as the water workers have already done, for just more than 9 per cent, compared with 13 per cent last pay round. The local authority manual workers have accepted 7 per cent, roughly the same as last year. That leaves the civil servants demanding 13 per cent, a claim dismissed by Government as "unrealistic", especially since Civil Service pay is already running about 5 per cent above the average elsewhere in the economy.

Perhaps public sector workers have learnt a lesson from last year — that high pay settlements cost jobs. Planned job losses in the Civil Service — from a complement of 740,000 in May 1979 to 630,000 by April 1984 — have been accelerated to keep within cash limits. Council manual workers also have seen jobs disappear and more will go this year to help pay for the over-budget settlement.

Only in the more insulated monopoly state industries is there free to slash investment or put up prices — can workers, to Mrs Thatcher's annoyance, feel safe from job losses. So, perhaps, the government should be thankful to have got off so lightly thus far.

Power stations Questions still

The wheels may be continuing to turn slowly towards a PWR power station at Sizewell, but the evolution of government policy of ordering one power station a year throughout the 1980s seems as open to doubt as ever. What the energy authorities might want and what the government feels can be afforded remain two different matters; and that is before one complicates the issue further with arguments about nuclear and non-nuclear, PWRs, AGRs and fast breeders.

The CEBG, the customer, has wanted a PWR station, and has the backing of the government. Whereas the AGR is effectively an entirely British package, the PWR means buying in both the technology and some at least of the major components from the US. That has particularly worried some of the major UK contractors Babcock, NEI and GEC since experience in a PWR contract in the UK would have given a lead into future contracts overseas.

The growing doubt of course is whether the PWR (post Three Mile Island) has a rosy future in world markets in any case.

Not that a switch in emphasis back to non-nuclear fuels would necessarily prove disastrous for UK companies in the sector. They are probably as competitive as any in the field, what they do need, though, is a feeling of certainty both that the domestic orders, of one kind or another, are going to be there to see them through the mid and late 1980s, and that the PWR really is a goer rather than a drawing board design that will simply be leap-frogged for the fast breeder.

Into the political quagmire

PERSPECTIVE: MONOPOLIES

By Kevin Page

England's desire to keep the Royal Bank out of the hands of Hongkong and Shanghai. No recommendations were forthcoming on informal regulation. But the sensible of England on its role as the regulator of the banking system clearly played a crucial role in the commission's decision.



Mr Jeremy Hardie, deputy chairman of the Monopolies Commission

The commission which should be investigating industrial and commercial questions became embroiled in politics. No one — except the Scottish lobby and presumably the bank — seems satisfied with the outcome.

Critics say that on the Royal Bank bids, the Government ducked the issue of what was or was not deemed to be in the public (or more clearly the national) interest and left the question to a body which did not feel itself qualified to take a view.

One commission member answers this by pointing out that where there are no rules of law, a body somewhere between the courts and the government must be responsible for making recommendations on the public interest.

It is clear that Whitehall is continuing a 30-year-old process by devolving much of the decision-making on merger policy upon the MMC. Since the commission was established in 1948, its powers have been widened and sharpened, first by the Monopolies and Mergers Act

1965, which brought service industries within its investigative scope, and secondly by the 1973 Fair Trading Act which empowered the commission to look at the nationalized industries.

A Green Paper in 1978 (the Lissner report) recommended that companies seeking to merge should show to the commission positive benefits for efficiency before a takeover was allowed. This report remains on the table and it is more than likely that MMC reports have noted the desire for the onus of proof to be placed on merger candidates.

"But if a tougher mergers policy is required, then that is the job of government", says Mr Hardie.

The first job for the commission is to look at any possible detrimental effects on competition. The second task is to examine possible benefits.

The commission's scope was widened once more under the Competition Act 1980 which empowered it to conduct "efficiency audits" of the nationalized industries. The report a year ago on British Gas recommended options on likely sale of the showrooms. But financial measures are deemed to be a matter for government and beyond the commission's purview. For example the report on British Rail's Southern Region commuter business recommended options on matters like guard rostering but was barred from considering financing requirements.

Two other charges levelled at the commission's role apart from who should define "public interest" and competition policy, relate to the inconsistency of recent reports and the fact that they have made character judgments on merger candidates, rather in the manner of a headmaster's report.

On inconsistency, Mr Hardie feels much of the recent criticism has been "ill-founded".

"There is something inherent in references to us which give rise to criticisms of our reports" he says with an air of inevitability. On allegations that recent reports have condemned certain people, Mr Hardie remains silent.

Returning to the issue of the commission's role in Whitehall, Mr Hardie is a firm believer in the school of flexibility and self regulation. "The great weakness of the American system whereby a company holding two per cent of a market could be judged to be in a monopolistic position, is that mergers are more complex. I

would be alarmed at judging mergers in a mechanical way."

But if Mr Hardie does not see himself in the mould of a tough trust-buster, the consumers champion against the massed big business battalions, it seems clear that the government has silently passed much of its responsibilities for competition policy to the commission.

Now, although Mr Hardie defends the excellence of

commission members, questioning being asked in Whitehall about the blurring of the government's and the commission's roles in defining the public interest and competition policy. The interests of employees managers, consumers and the radical overhaul of the industrial structure in the next 20 years, should not be left in the hands of a statutory body with powers only to recommend, say the commission's critics.

Tate & Lyle 1981

'A stronger Group is emerging'

The Chairman, the Rt Hon Lord Jellicoe, reports:

- * A return to an improved quality of earnings and a more acceptable level of profit — £36.3m before tax — achieved in a very difficult economic climate.
- * A better balanced profit "mix" with our less cyclical businesses both at home and abroad showing marked improvements.
- * We propose, in conjunction with our workforce, to undertake a modernisation programme in our UK refineries.
- * Recommended increase in final dividend from 6.5p to 7.5p per unit of stock making 11.5p for the year.
- * The achievement of the objective we set ourselves three years ago to complete the re-shaping of the Group by 1981 enables us now to give our full concentration to the growth and development of the business.

Summary of Results

	1981 £ million	1980 £ million
Turnover	2,188.3	1,420.1
Profit before taxation	36.3	30.7
Ordinary Dividend	11.5p	10.5p
Earnings per £1 ordinary stock unit	37.2p	31.3p



Copies of the Annual Report for the period ended 26th September 1981 will be mailed to stockholders shortly and will be available from J E Wright, Secretary, Tate & Lyle PLC, Sugar Quay, Lower Thames Street, London EC3R 6DQ.

Tennis

Borg's freedom blow as he decides to join Wimbledon qualifiers

By Rex Bellamy
Tennis Correspondent

Bjorn Borg, six times champion of France and five times champion of Wimbledon, has decided that he would rather play in qualifying competitions than gain access to the draws by competing in 10 grand prize events other than the four "grand slam" tournaments. The choice, between qualifying, or playing more grand prize tournaments than he wanted to, was forced upon him by the rules of the grand prize competition.

Borg's decision reflects credit on him. He has refused to be bullied and although he ranks among the greatest of all French and Wimbledon champions, he is not vain enough to find it beneath his dignity to qualify. He is also serving a wider cause by retraining a professional's freedom to select his own assignments.

The French and Wimbledon committees will inevitably look rather subservient and foolish, as expected, they too a line drawn for them by the Men's International Professional Tennis Council, who run the grand prize, they have been sharply reminded that their allegiance to the grand prize is more of an embarrassment than an advantage. As far as the Wimbledon committee are concerned there can be little more time to compete, if he wishes, on the rival circuit run by World Championships Tennis.

Wimbledon's association with the grand prize is based on the belief that supporting this "official" circuit serves the game's world-wide interests. That assumption must now be questioned. The 10-tournament rule could even be counter-productive as far as the grand prize is concerned. Borg's decision means he has given himself more time to compete, if he wishes, on the rival circuit run by World Championships Tennis.

John McDonald, international director of WCT, said yesterday: "My understanding, from talking to Bjorn, was that he wanted a long rest and did not intend to play any major tournaments until Monte Carlo in April. He had a very open mind concerning his new schedule and was hoping to play some WCT events."

The Lawn Tennis Association have issued their annual British rankings list. Virginia Wade, ranked 19th consecutive years, and No 1 for the past 10, has had to concede supremacy to Susan Parker, Christopher Murray and the men's No 1 for the fifth consecutive year. Since 1956, when official rankings were issued for the first time since 1938, Roger Taylor has been the most successful player, having won the men's No 1 for the fifth consecutive year. Since 1956, when official rankings were issued for the first time since 1938, Roger Taylor has been the most successful player, having won the men's No 1 for the fifth consecutive year.

The LTA have ranked 20 men but only 10 women. The leading players correspond closely with top five times. It would have only other men ranked at the



Borg: a great champion who does not find it beneath his dignity to have to qualify.

the computerized rankings of the Association of Tennis Professionals and the Women's Tennis Association. The LTA's insistence on a minimum of 12 appearances in authorized tournaments means that Mark Cox and Robin Drysdale are excluded.

Cox, aged 38, was first ranked in 1962 and has since been omitted from only one ranking list (he was otherwise engaged at Cambridge University). He was No 1 five times and once shared top place with Mottram, Drysdale, aged 29, has been ranked for six consecutive years and was fourth in the 1979 season.

Richard Lewis, first rank in 1974, rises to his highest ranking, second, which reflects his status as Mottram's second string in the Davis Cup team. The five leading men are all in their middle or late twenties, which does not indicate much scope for improvement. But the five leading women include Joanna Durie, aged 21, and Anna Hobbs, 22, who may reasonably be expected to advance from their year-end WTA rankings of 18th and 34th respectively.

Men

1. C. Mottram (1)
2. R. Lewis (7)
3. J. Smith (3)
4. J. Lloyd (24)
5. F. Drysdale (4)
6. J. Durie (10)
7. J. Hobbs (16)
8. D. Lewis (11)
9. N. Sears (19)
10. J. Whitford (9)
11. N. Brown (20)
12. R. Taylor (24)
13. R. Bevan (8)
14. M. Appleton (17)
15. K. Harris (13)
16. W. Davies (15)
17. H. Becker (13)
18. M. Alford (—)
19. M. Holland (—)
20. D. Shaw (—)

Women

1. S. Parker (2)
2. V. Wade (1)
3. J. Durie (4)
4. J. Hobbs (5)
5. C. Cox (9)
6. J. Lewis (5)
7. K. Brasher (6)
8. J. Taylor (10)
9. A. Cooper (8)
10. E. Jones (13)

Last year's ranking in brackets.

Football

Ferguson says no to a 'great offer'

Alex Ferguson, the Aberdeen manager, yesterday admitted he has turned down a "great offer" from Wolverhampton to succeed John Barnwell as manager.

The 40-year-old former Rangers player, who took over at Pittodrie from Wolverhampton to succeed John Barnwell as manager. "I rejected the offer because of the potential of the Aberdeen players," he said.

Ferguson, who would have been the highest-paid Scottish football manager on a reported £50,000 a year, added: "My ambition is to win the league. I have not even half fulfilled, have great belief in my players. If they believe in themselves as much as I believe in them there is no reason why we cannot achieve."

Derby County yesterday decided to reduce the price of terrace tickets from £4 to £2.50 for Oldham Athletic supporters visiting the Baseball Ground for the second division game on Saturday.

Mike Dunford, the Derby secretary, said the £4 price quoted to Oldham had been a "misunderstanding." "This situation has arisen because of a misunderstanding between myself and the board of directors. If I have misled anyone I apologise."

The £2.50 standing price for visiting fans will apply to all clubs except Sheffield Wednesday, Barnsley, Rotherham and Newham & Essex Colliery.

Derby introduced the new charges following trouble caused at the Baseball Ground by Chelsea supporters at the end of November.

Yesterday's results

FOOTBALL CONVICTION: Fulham 2, Huddersfield 1; Queens Park Rangers 2, Ipswich 1; Queens Park Rangers 2, Ipswich 1; Queens Park Rangers 2, Ipswich 1.

Rugby Union

CLUB MATCHES: Cambridge University 19, R.A.F. 15; Metropolitan Police 19, R.A.F. 15; Metropolitan Police 19, R.A.F. 15.

Today's fixtures

Kilburn v. 10.30 am; R.A.F. v. 11.00 am; R.A.F. v. 11.00 am; R.A.F. v. 11.00 am.

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Kilburn v. 10.30 am; R.A.F. v. 11.00 am; R.A.F. v. 11.00 am; R.A.F. v. 11.00 am.

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Kilburn v. 10.30 am; R.A.F. v. 11.00 am; R.A.F. v. 11.00 am; R.A.F. v. 11.00 am.

New Zealand discover that the profitable thing is to take part

By Stuart Jones
Football Correspondent

Pierre de Fedi, Baron de Courbetin, expressed his opinion that the important thing is not to win but to take part. He had the Olympic Games in mind at the time but now, some 75 years later, two nations at least are discovering the benefits of merely taking part in a global event, the World Cup.

The journey of New Zealand, the last of the 24 finalists to qualify, was the longest. They flew more than 70,000 miles and played for more than 22 hours before they won the play-off against the Dutch.

Whatever the outcome in the first round, New Zealand expect to benefit by at least \$20m. profits that can be used to provide coaching and facilities for the game in their own country.

Yet football may be on the verge of a big breakthrough in New Zealand. During their 15 qualifying games, the live television coverage by satellite was seen by 31 per cent of all potential viewers. The traditional sport of Rugby Union, being played by the All Blacks in France, was watched by exactly half that figure.

As one of the 500-1 outsiders, New Zealand are not expected to win a game, let alone reach the quarter final stage, but they are rather than despair greeted their draw in the strongest group of all. Interest will rise to see their progress for their own sake, not least because a local chairman has predicted a 1-0 victory for them over the tournament's favourites.

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Racing

Aldaniti leads 81 hopefuls on long road to Aintree

By Michael Seely

Aldaniti and Royal Mail, first and third in last year's Sun Grand National, are among the 81 entries for this year's race. In fact, eight of last season's 12 finishers are engaged, the favourites being Sparrow, Missie, Royal Mail, So and Sebastian V. The future of our most exciting steeplechase still hangs in the balance. Lord Plummer, the chairman of the Horserace Betting Levy Board, said yesterday: "We are still trying to get Bill Davies to the negotiating table. But unless we obtain the increase in the levy we are asking for, nothing is certain as racing has so many other priorities beside the National."

John Gifford, Aldaniti's trainer, is abroad on holiday with Fred Winter. However, a stable spokesman said, "We have had Aldaniti back at Aintree since the Tuesday before Christmas. He is very well and if we can get enough work into him, Aldaniti will have his first race at the Whitbread Trial Steeplechase at Ascot on February 10, the race he won last year."

As usual, there is not a preponderance of good-class horses among the entries. Two interesting possible runners are Richard Head's pair, Border Incident and Uncle Bing. Border Incident is still one of the best chasers in the country, despite his injury plagued career, while Uncle Bing's triumph over winning the Topham Trophy over



Aldaniti, the 1981 National hero, is likely to reappear at Ascot next month.

part of the National course in 1980, with John Francombe in the saddle, was spectacular. Mick O'Toole has entered Chiorullah, who was one of the earliest winners of the Queen Mother Champion Chase in 1980, although the Irish horse was subsequently disqualified in favour of Another Dolly.

Although last year's runner-up, Sparrow, is still on the sidelines, another well-known hunter-chaser will be trying to blaze the same trail this spring. Last year, Gifford won both the Cheltenham and Liverpool Foxhunters, with the newly-elected jockey Club member, Dick Saunders, on board. And this time Gifford's owner, the Cottosmore farmer, Frank Gilman, intends to run his pride and joy in both the Cheltenham Gold Cup and the National.

Some useful stayers engaged are the 1979 Welsh Grand National winner, Peter Scott, and Wagoner's Walk, who won Newcastle's Eider Steeplechase and the Kim Muir Steeplechase at Cheltenham last year. The only previous winner entered, apart from Aldaniti, is Rubisic but the Cumbrian trainer, Gordon Richardson, has entered him as a long-distance runner.

Although the weights will not be published until next Wednesday, Ladbrokes, the managers of Aintree, have already opened a

book on the race. They make Aldaniti their favourite at 14-1, followed by Cavity Hunter, Gritter and Royal Mail, who are bracketed together at 20-1. The four 25-1 chances are Peter Scott, Senator Macleod, Three To One and Wagoner's Walk. Michael Dickinson said that Cavity Hunter was an unlikely participant and that if his stable is to be represented it will be by Bueche Giorod.

If the go-ahead is given at Lingfield Park today, the spotlight will be focused on David Elsworth's two Daily Express Triumph Hurdle hopes, Right Regent and Omnipotent, due to run in the first and second divisions of the Keep Novices Hurdle.

Right Regent, a useful stayer on the flat, gained his first

victory under winter rules when wearing down Baron Pallas at Newbury, and should have little to fear from his rivals. Right Regent is quoted as 33-1 for the big Cheltenham race but only 16-1 is available about Omnipotent who created a favourable impression when giving Brave Hussar such a hard fight for his money at Chepstow.

Gifford could also land a double at Lingfield with Another Duke and Southdown Spirit. Another Duke was quite impressive when beating Oakprime at Kempton and appears to have the Drawbridge Steeplechase at his mercy. Southdown Spirit was winning his second race from three starts this season when coming home four lengths clear of Genovese at Folkestone.

Lingfield programme

Tote Double 2.30 and 3.30, Treble 2.0, 3.0 and 4.0

1.30 KEEP HURDLE (Div I: 4-y-o: 5600: 2m) (11 runners)

001 RIGHT REGENT (Gifford) 11-10
002 OMNIPOTENT (Gifford) 11-10
003 CAVITY HUNTER (Gifford) 11-10
004 GRIFFIN (Gifford) 11-10
005 CHIEF (Gifford) 11-10
006 CAVITY HUNTER (Gifford) 11-10
007 CAVITY HUNTER (Gifford) 11-10
008 CAVITY HUNTER (Gifford) 11-10
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010 CAVITY HUNTER (Gifford) 11-10
011 CAVITY HUNTER (Gifford) 11-10

2.00 DRAWBRIDGE CHASE (E3,600: 2½m) (4 runners)

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Lingfield Park selections

By Michael Seely
1.30 Right Regent. 2.0 Another Duke. 2.30 Royal Friend. 3.0 Omnipotent. 3.30 Glenhawk. 4.0 Southdown Spirit.

Newton Abbot card

1.15 CHELTON HURDLE (Div I: novices: £780: 2m 5½) (16 runners)

001 002 003 004 005 006 007 008 009 010 011 012 013 014 015 016 017 018 019 020 021 022 023 024 025 026 027 028 029 030 031 032 033 034 035 036 037 038 039 040 041 042 043 044 045 046 047 048 049 050 051 052 053 054 055 056 057 058 059 060 061 062 063 064 065 066 067 068 069 070 071 072 073 074 075 076 077 078 079 080 081 082 083 084 085 086 087 088 089 090 091 092 093 094 095 096 097 098 099 100 101 102 103 104 105 106 107 108 109 110 111 112 113 114 115 116 117 118 119 120 121 122 123 124 125 126 127 128 129 130 131 132 133 134 135 136 137 138 139 140 141 142 143 144 145 146 147 148 149 150 151 152 153 154 155 156 157 158 159 160 161 162 163 164 165 166 167 168 169 170 171 172 173 174 175 176 177 178 179 180 181 182 183 184 185 186 187 188 189 190 191 192 193 194 195 196 197 198 199 200 201 202 203 204 205 206 207 208 209 210 211 212 213 214 215 216 217 218 219 220 221 222 223 224 225 226 227 228 229 230 231 232 233 234 235 236 237 238 239 240 241 242 243 244 245 246 247 248 249 250 251 252 253 254 255 256 257 258 259 260 261 262 263 264 265 266 267 268 269 270 271 272 273 274 275 276 277 278 279 280 281 282 283 284 285 286 287 288 289 290 291 292 293 294 295 296 297 298 299 300 301 302 303 304 305 306 307 308 309 310 311 312 313 314 315 316 317 318 319 320 321 322 323 324 325 326 327 328 329 330 331 332 333 334 335 336 337 338 339 340 341 342 343 344 345 346 347 348 349 350 351 352 353 354 355 356 357 358 359 360 361 362 363 364 365 366 367 368 369 370 371 372 373 374 375 376 377 378 379 380 381 382 383 384 385 386 387 388 389 390 391 392 393 394 395 396 397 398 399 400 401 402 403 404 405 406 407 408 409 410 411 412 413 414 415 416 417 418 419 420 421 422 423 424 425 426 427 428 429 430 431 432 433 434 435 436 437 438 439 440 441 442 443 444 445 446 447 448 449 450 451 452 453 454 455 456 457 458 459 460 461 462 463 464 465 466 467 468 469 470 471 472 473 474 475 476 477 478 479 480 481 482 483 484 485 486 487 488 489 490 491 492 493 494 495 496 497 498 499 500 501 502 503 504 505 506 507 508 509 510 511 512 513 514 515 516 517 518 519 520 521 522 523 524 525 526 527 528 529 530 531 532 533 534 535 536 537 538 539 540 541 542 543 544 545 546 547 548 549 550 551 552 553 554 555 556 557 558 559 560 561 562 563 564 565 566 567 568 569 570 571 572 573 574 575 576 577 578 579 580 581 582 583 584 585 586 587 588 589 590 591 592 593 594 595 596 597 598 599 600 601 602 603 604 605 606 607 608 609 610 611 612 613 614 615 616 617 618 619 620 621 622 623 624 625 626 627 628 629 630 631 632 633 634 635 636 637 638 639 640 641 642 643 644 645 646 647 648 649 650 651 652 653 654 655 656 657 658 659 660 661 662 663 664 665 666 667 668 669 670 671 672 673 674 675 676 677 678 679 680 681 682 683 684 685 686 687 688 689 690 691 692 693 694 695 696 697 698 699 700 701 702 703 704 705 706 707 708 709 710 711 712 713 714 715 716 717 718 719 720 721 722 723 724 725 726 727 728 729 730 731 732 733 734 735 736 737 738 739 740 741 742 743 744 745 746 747 748 749 750 751 752 753 754 755 756 757 758 759 760 761 762 763 764 765 766 767 768 769 770 771 772 773 774 775 776 777 778 779 780 781 782 783 784 785 786 787 788 789 790 791 792 793 794 795 796 797 798 799 800 801 802 803 804 805 806 807 808 809 810 811 812 813 814 815 816 817 818 819 820 821 822 823 824 825 826 827 828 829 830 831 832 833 834 835 836 837 838 839 840 841 842 843 844 845 846 847 848 849 850 851 852 853 854 855 856 857 858 859 860 861 862 863 864 865 866 867 868 869 870 871 872 873 874 875 876 877 878 879 880 881 882 883 884 885 886 887 888 889 890 891 892 893 894 895 896 897 898 899 900 901 902 903 904 905 906 907 908 909 910 911 912 913 914 915 916 917 918 919 920 921 922 923 924 925 926 927 928 929 930 931 932 933 934 935 936 937 938 939 940 941 942 943 944 945 946 947 948 949 950 951 952 953 954 955 956 957 958 959 960 961 962 963 964 965 966 967 968 969 970 971 972 973 974 975 976 977 978 979 980 981 982 983 984 985 986 987 988 989 990 991 992 993 994 995 996 997 998 999 1000

Newton Abbot selections

By Michael Seely
1.15 Gilded Gold. 1.45 Better Than Ever. 2.15 Royal Portia. 2.45 Hotmoot Star. 3.15 Walzer. 3.45 Pincents.

Court of Appeal

No discovery before details of alleged misconduct

RHM Foods Ltd and Another v Bovril Ltd
Before Lord Justice Lawton and Lord Justice Oliver.
(Judgment delivered January 20)

An order on a motion in interlocutory proceedings granting the plaintiffs in a passing-off action order for discovery of the defendants' briefs to their advertising agents and correspondence relating thereto, after the issue of the writ but before delivery of a statement of defence, was refused. The judge's discretion was exercised in favour of the defendants. The court held that the bearing of the motion would probably conclude the matter.

The Court of Appeal allowed an appeal by the defendants, Bovril Ltd, from an order for discovery of documents sought by the plaintiffs, RHM Foods Ltd, granted by Mr Justice Warner on November 30, 1981.

Mr Leonard Hoffmann, QC and Mr David Kitchen, QC, were the plaintiffs' counsel. Mr Peter Prescott, QC, and Mr Peter Prescott, QC, were the defendants' counsel.

LORD JUSTICE LAWTON said that Bovril was competing with their gray mixture, Graymatt, against RHM's product Bisto which had been on the market since 1910. Bisto alleged that Graymatt had been advertised on television, their gray mixture in such a fashion as to give the public the impression that it was a Bisto product with the intention deliberately to deceive them.

The allegations were very serious and based on alleged similarities of colour in the packaging and the way the advertisements had been made up and presented.

The similarities might be enough to establish a prima facie case for the motion for an interlocutory injunction.

However, a case based on similarities was not a strong one. The affidavits evidence stated that Bovril had adopted a deliberate and systematic campaign to appropriate the goodwill of the Bisto product.

Mr Hoffmann submitted that the statements of the deponents amounted to allegations of intent to deceive the public.

As the issue of deception was going to be a live one Bisto applied under Order 24, rule 7 of the Rules of the Supreme Court for discovery of particular documents. Mr Justice Warner was impressed by the submission that Bovril was deliberately deceiving the public and that Bovril would have documents showing that intent and also by the fact that on the motion for interlocutory relief, the court would have to consider if there were any evidence of intent to deceive, he therefore made the order sought.

Mr Bateson submitted that the judge had no jurisdiction to make the order, or even if he had the jurisdiction on the facts before him, there was no evidential basis for making it and that it was unfair to Bovril.

In the present case Bisto wanted to preserve, pending judgment, their property rights in their product which they claimed were being damaged by Bovril's marketing and advertising of Graymatt in an unlawful fashion. A motion for interlocutory relief pending trial was an important step towards disposing of the case and Bisto was entitled to make that step.

Bovril's second and third points turned on fairness. Bisto alleged that Bovril wanted to make profits by deception. The affidavits did not in terms allege fraud and if fraud was to be alleged then it had to be pleaded particularly. Copying the Bisto advertisements did not amount to passing-off.

Although the affidavits gave Bisto reasonable cause for suspicion, there was no satisfactory evidence of fraud or of a disreputable conduct short of fraud and it would be unfair to allow Bisto to have discovery before they had pleaded in their statement of claim such allegations of deliberate deception as they felt justified in making.

Discovery under Order 24, rule 1 related to "matters in question in the action" and until the statement of claim was delivered the court could seldom know what those matters were.

The need for definition of the issues properly explained why the sort of order made in the present case was so rare.

The application in the present case was not for the purpose of saving costs but was a fishing expedition for evidence to support allegations, which, if proved, could be inferred from conclusions set out in affidavits.

LORD JUSTICE OLIVER, agreeing said that the order which was made was an unusual one. It was clear that the judge took the view that the basis on which he should exercise his discretion was that the application for injunctive relief pending a trial in a passing-off action often made it not worth while for one party or the other to continue with the action for obtaining potentially substantial but invariably speculative damages. The judge did have jurisdiction to make the order and orders for discovery before proceedings were made in cases of personal injuries to employees and on the *Antoni Piller* principle.

In the present case, the judge supposed that the hearing of the motion was likely to determine the dispute but the present

Great Light eclipsed at Folkestone

The new National Hunt enthusiasts, who defied the rail strike to reach Folkestone yesterday, found the Kent course shrouded in fog, and they were further disappointed when the launched Great Light was well beaten by Supper's Ready in the first division of the Northern novices' hurdle.

Today's two meetings at Lingfield Park and Newton Abbot are subject to early-morning inspections. Provided there is no overnight rain, racing should go ahead at Lingfield where there is a precautionary inspection at 7.30 am. At Newton Abbot the open ditch and water jump have been omitted and stewards will inspect at 7.0 am if there is any further rain.

There will also be an inspection at 4 pm this afternoon for tomorrow's Cauldwell Chase meeting where there is still frost in the ground.

Folkestone results

Going: Hard. Heavy Chase: Soft

1.15 (21) NORTHERN HURDLE (Div I: Novices: £1,100: 2m 10y) (11 runners)

001 SUPPER'S READY (Gifford) 11-10
002 GREAT LIGHT (Gifford) 11-10
003 GREAT LIGHT (Gifford) 11-10
004 GREAT LIGHT (Gifford) 11-10
005 GREAT LIGHT (Gifford) 11-10
006 GREAT LIGHT (Gifford) 11-10
007 GREAT LIGHT (Gifford) 11-10
008 GREAT LIGHT (Gifford) 11-10
009 GREAT LIGHT (Gifford) 11-10
010 GREAT LIGHT (Gifford) 11-10
011 GREAT LIGHT (Gifford) 11-10

2.15 (21) ROBERTS HURDLE (Div I: Novices: £1,100: 2m 10y) (11 runners)

001 SUPPER'S READY (Gifford) 11-10
002 GREAT LIGHT (Gifford) 11-10
003 GREAT LIGHT (Gifford) 11-10
004 GREAT LIGHT (Gifford) 11-10
005 GREAT LIGHT (Gifford) 11-10
006 GREAT LIGHT (Gifford) 11-10
007 GREAT LIGHT (Gifford) 11-10
008 GREAT LIGHT (Gifford) 11-10
009 GREAT LIGHT (Gifford) 11-10
010 GREAT LIGHT (Gifford) 11-10
011 GREAT LIGHT (Gifford) 11-10

Scholarships 2: developing talents other than purely intellectual

Stirling needs more support

In 1980 Stirling became the first Scottish university to offer sports bursaries. Dr Ian Thomson is the Director of Physical Recreation there, and his reasons for establishing such a scheme were much the same as those at Bath, of "developing talents other than the purely intellectual."

Dr Thomson has met no opposition from colleagues as long as academic standards can be maintained and there is no direct cost to the university. "To be fair, they do recognize that the type of publicly associated with high level sport is beneficial and this may have influenced their judgment," he said.

So far, three students have been admitted to the scheme. The bursary permits a student to extend his or her degree programme by a year. It is used to meet tuition fees and half of the maintenance costs of the extra year.

In addition, each sports bursar follows a planned programme of training at home and abroad and an element of the bursary is used to cover the associated costs. A bursary costs the two sponsors, the Scottish International Education Trust (2) and the International Year of the Child Fund (1) approximately £5,000.

After only one year, Dr Thomson is satisfied that he should concentrate on a maximum of three sports. His reasoning is that "sports bursars consume a great deal of one's time and they need regular access to facilities."

Thus Stirling will concentrate on golf, badminton and canoeing. He is conscious that "bursars are only one, albeit special group in the university, and therefore it is important to ensure a disproportionate amount of time is not allocated to them."

Moreover, it is quite apparent that the type of problems facing badminton players are rather different from those of canoeists. If there are four to six badminton players it will be much easier to share transport, coaching, travel and equipment and thereby reduce unit costs. Equally, it is easier to justify regular bookings in a sports hall for a group than for an individual.

There is an additional advantage in that a group can meet and discuss their progress. This has already begun with the two badminton bursars, Susan Bell and Graham Martin.

In the short term it is hoped to establish four bursars in each of the three sports. "I consider that I could deal with the growth stages of that size of group within my available time, and still give the quality of care and supervision which is required," Dr Thomson said.

Athletics

Sports call for women

Lindsay MacDonald, the Scottish girl who captured the hearts of millions of television viewers in the Moscow Olympics, yesterday urged more women to take up sport. The Dunfermline athlete, aged 17, was speaking in Glasgow, where she launched the Scottish Sports Council's Sport For All Campaign, 1982.

This year's theme is Women and Sport, designed to appeal to women of all ages and make the year in which they decide to take up a sport which attracts them.

The main aim of the campaign is to increase participation by women and increase the opportunities for them. Numerous sporting bodies are being

La creme de la creme

C.A.C.I.

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CACI is an international company and any foreign language ability would be extremely useful, particularly Dutch and/or French.

The company offers a good salary and fringe benefits package, the opportunity to meet interesting people from all over the world, occasionally in their own countries, and pleasant modern offices in High Holborn. The successful applicant will have a private office. Interviews will be arranged within two weeks of this advertisement.

Please send your resume to:
Nadine Hughes, CACI, Inc. - International
Lincoln House, 296/302 High Holborn
London WC1V 7HZ

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required urgently for City based International Group

- 1) For Managing Director of a Project Engineering Company engaged in the development of a wide range of contracts in a number of different countries.
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Good experience and educational background (O or A levels essential) plus first class secretarial skills. Salaries in the region of £5,000/£5,500 plus free lunches, season tickets, bonus, etc. up to £15,000.

Please phone (or write) for interview to Miss Gower, Mitchell Cotts Group Ltd., Cotts House, Camomile Street, London E.C.3 (01-283 1234).

PA/SECRETARY

General Manager of a large Marine Insurance Company requires experienced Personal Assistant/Secretary. Aged 25-35. Must be educated to 'O' level standard and have accurate shorthand and typing. The ability to work on one's own initiative and organise and communicate at all levels is essential. Legal experience and a knowledge of French would be an advantage.

The work is very varied and interesting, dealing with wreck removals, collisions, oil pollution, legal matters, preparing documents for seminars, arranging courses etc. There is plenty of scope for involvement and responsibility. First class salary, 4 weeks holiday, L.V. etc.

Applications and C.V. to:
B. L. Jarrett
West of England Ship Owners,
Mutual Insurance Association (London) Ltd.,
1 Peppys St.,
London EC3N 4AL

PUBLISHING

A Secretary is required for the Circulation Director of Business Traveller magazine. Applicants should have good secretarial skills, enthusiasm for working hard and a desire to learn and become involved in all aspects of the department. Numeracy and a sense of humour are also important. We are a small company, the offices are not smart but the work is fun. Please send c.v. with a letter telling us why you wish to apply for the position, why you would be good at the job and your salary expectation. Write to Carol Wilson, Circulation Director, Business Traveller, 61 Fleet Street, London EC4Y 1LA. Please mark envelope: Private and Confidential.

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If it's a career that you are looking for, not a 'job' that lasts a few months, if it's a personal friendly service that you want, not treatment that makes you feel like a cog in a big machine, if it's expert advice you need from consultants with experience in all aspects of recruitment - we will be able to help you, particularly at the moment, if you are in your mid-twenties with excellent secretarial skills and a professional attitude to your work.

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Telephone Julie Hedges
01-486 7171
(No agencies)

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* Unless you are applying for one of the above positions, please do not write to us.

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The Independent Broadcasting Authority will soon be appointing a Director General to succeed Sir Brian Young on his retirement next November.



INDEPENDENT BROADCASTING AUTHORITY

Applications or suggestions for the Authority's consideration should be made by March 1st. They will be treated in strict confidence. They should be addressed, in envelopes marked 'DG appointment', to the Chairman, IBA, 70 Brompton Road, London SW3 1BY. This position is open to men and women.

LA CREME DE LA CREME

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This important post in NESDA, the Industrial Development Board for the North-East of Scotland, is concerned with the promotion of the fast growing economic development of Grampian in the UK and overseas. The position has added to its traditional duties of industrial and commercial development a new role as the main body responsible for the promotion of offshore oil and gas exploration and production.

NESDA maintains a very active programme of publications, seminars, research advisory service, public speaking, and investment and financial assistance. The position has added to its traditional duties of industrial and commercial development a new role as the main body responsible for the promotion of offshore oil and gas exploration and production.

Candidates must be innovative and fully capable of assisting in the development of the North-East of Scotland. The successful candidate will be a first-class typist, have a good knowledge of French, and be able to handle a wide variety of duties. Salary negotiable, up to £15,461.

Dorset County Council

Deputy County Treasurer

Salary £17,706-£18,858

Applications are invited from men and women for the above post which will become vacant in April on the retirement of the present holder.

Closing date for applications will be 1st February, 1982 and an application form and further particulars are obtainable from the undersigned.

K. A. ABEL,
Chief Executive,
County Hall, Dorchester,
Dorchester DT1 1XJ

GLOUCESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Sites and Monuments Record Officer

With the support of the Department of the Environment, the County Council proposes to establish, maintain and develop a Sites and Monuments Record for Gloucestershire. Applications are therefore invited from persons with a degree or equivalent qualification in archaeology, history or geography and with a wide knowledge of field monuments and finds of all periods for the Post of Sites and Monuments Record Officer. Experience with current methods of data handling and retrieval will be accorded a high priority. The Officer will be stationed in the County Planning Department and will be required to give specialist planning advice for the preservation of archaeological sites either in situ or by record. The post is offered as a 3-year fixed-term contract commencing 1st April, 1982 (or as soon thereafter as possible), and is subject to the N.A.C. Conditions of Service, together with the local conditions adopted by the County Council. Salary within range APS-S01 (£5,652-£8,733 per annum), depending upon qualifications and experience, with casual user fee allowance. Application forms and further details are available from the County Planning Officer, Shire Hall, Gloucester GL1 2TN. Closing date: 15th February, 1982.

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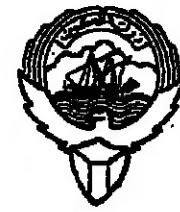
Closing date for applications 12th February, 1982.

THE GREEK ISLANDS

Travel Agents are required to look after their clients and make a profit. Applicants must be aged 25, should be responsible, capable and prepared to travel. Knowledge of Greek an advantage. Consider applications to: Wickworth (0622 983) 2203 for details.

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For total extraction work, 20% Dutch licence. Write to: County Planning Officer, Shire Hall, Gloucester GL1 2TN. Closing date: 15th February, 1982.



STATE OF KUWAIT MINISTRY OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Ministry of Public Health announces vacancies for the following specialities to work at the Islamic Medicine Centre.

- 1 Pharmacology
- 2 Microbiology
- 3 Pharmacognosy and Phytochemistry

Applicants should have Ph.D. degree in one of the above mentioned specialities and 5 years' experience after it.

Application should include Curriculum Vitae, copies of Certificates of qualifications and experience, and copies of published papers.

Preference is given to applicants with experience in Medicinal Plants.

Applications should be sent within three weeks.

Apply to: General Secretariat, Islamic Medicine Centre, Ministry of Public Health, Post Box No. 5, Safat, KUWAIT.

Immigration Act 1971

ADJUDICATORS (FULL AND PART-TIME)

Additional adjudicators are to be appointed under the Immigration Act 1971 on a full and part-time basis, to hear appeals against decisions taken in the exercise of immigration control. Applications for appointment are now invited.

The primary qualification for appointment is the ability to conduct hearings and decide appeals impartially in a judicial spirit. Legal qualifications and experience are highly desirable.

A full time vacancy exists in the South East to hear appeals at London Airport (Harmondsworth). The salary is £16,765. In addition a London Weighting Allowance of £454 is payable. The appointment will be pensionable.

Part-time vacancies exist to hear appeals in Birmingham and Scotland (Edinburgh and Glasgow). The successful candidates will be added to a panel of part-time adjudicators who are called upon from time to time as the need arises. They are expected to be available for at least one day a week and may occasionally be asked to hear appeals outside their area.

A fee of £67.00 will be paid for each day's duty. Pro rata payments will be made for preparatory work. The appointments will not be pensionable.

Further information and an application form (to be returned by 15th February 1982) may be obtained from the Principal Establishment Officer, Home Office, Room 203, Whittington House, 19/30 Alfred Place, London, WC1E 7EA.

Home Office

Closing date for Police Graduate Entry Scheme January 29th.

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You may apply if you are a graduate, or in the final year of any full-time degree course.

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To Supt. John M. Adams B.A., Room 556, Home Office, Queen Anne's Gate, London SW1H 9AT. Please send me your booklet and application form.

Name _____ Age _____

Address _____

University/College _____

My Degree Course _____ Ends _____ DT/GR

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Applicants should preferably be retired senior government official with ministerial appointment or holders of honours or distinction. Salary will be negotiable according to qualifications and experience. All applications will be treated in strictest confidence. Please send applications to:

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